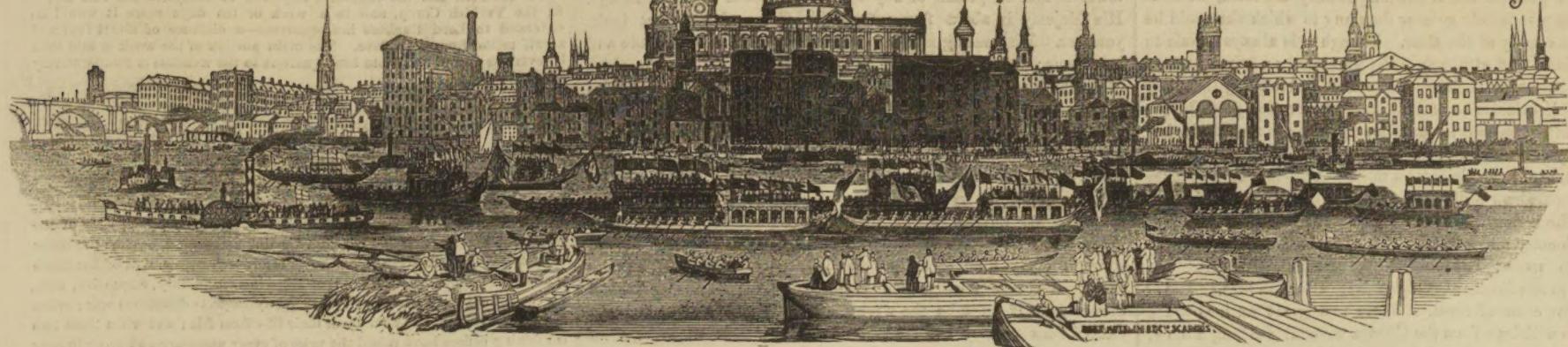


# THE ILLUSTRATED LENDON & NEWSPAPERS



No. 736.—VOL. XXVI.

SATURDAY, APRIL 14, 1855.

[WITH TWO SUPPLEMENTS, 1s.]

## LETTERS ON THE WAR AND THE EASTERN QUESTION—(No. III.) *(From our Special Correspondent.)*

VIENNA, April 7, 1855.

For the last week the Conferences have been at a stand-still. The redoubtable Third Point—the only one of the four which offered any difficulties for diplomacy to unravel—was no sooner approached than the Ambassadors, ordinary and extraordinary, found themselves at a loss how to proceed. It is likely that Lord John Russell and Lord Westmoreland perfectly well understood the work they had to perform, and that M. de Bourqueney was equally well instructed. Perhaps, also, the Ministers of the Ottoman Porte, who are not quite extinguished by the powerful protection under which it is the misfortune of their country to be placed, were determined to resist any project, come whence it would, for cobbling up an ephemeral and unsatisfactory peace. But the Russians were evidently not prepared to carry their concessions beyond the first two points; supposing, which is not yet quite certain, that those points were actually agreed to. The Austrian Government—an arbitrator, rather than a principal, in the quarrel, and caring little—or, at all events, less than Great Britain and France—for the point of honour involved in the capture or destruction of Sebastopol—had not made up its mind in what manner and to what extent the power of Russia in the Black Sea could be restricted. No sooner, therefore, was the Third Point reached than the assembled Plenipotentiaries discovered that the profane vulgar out of doors were not altogether wrong in the conviction that all previous discussion had been useless palaver; and that the tug of diplomacy, like the tug of war, would have to be directed against Sebastopol. A formal suspension of the Conferences at this point would have alarmed the too sensitive

public; but, fortunately, a pretext was to be found by which appearances might be saved, and time gained. Advantage was taken of the religious solemnities of Passion Week to procure a delay which, while it could not injure the prospects of the Allies in the Crimea, was likely to be of service to such of the Ambassadors and Plenipotentiaries as desired to receive further instructions. In consequence of the difference in the Calendar it only happens once in about twenty years that the Easter of the Greek Christians occurs at the same period as the Easter of the Protestants and Roman Catholics; so that, on this occasion, the Russians had the same excuse as the British, French, and Austrian Ministers for the non-transaction of diplomatic business. The delay was further serviceable in allowing time for the arrival of two new and important personages—new to Vienna, but by no means new to the Eastern question or any of its complications. M. Drouyn de Lhuys—whose ruthless scarification of Count Nesselrode, on every occasion when the latter has been reduced to the sad necessity of pleading the bad cause of Russia, has gained him a reputation second to that of no statesman in Europe—arrived in Vienna this morning. Ali Pacha is expected this evening; so that all the Powers which take a part in the Conferences, with the exception of Russia, will be represented by a high Minister of State, as well as by an Ambassador. When the Conferences resume business eleven diplomats and statesmen will be present:—Lord John Russell and the Earl of Westmoreland, for Great Britain; M. Drouyn de Lhuys and M. de Bourqueney, for France; Count Buol-Schauenstein and the Baron Prokesch von Osten, for Austria; Ali Pacha, Riza Bey, and Arif Effendi, for the Ottoman Porte; and Prince Gortschakoff and M. de Titoff, for Russia. With these will be associated M. von Meyssenburg, as Secretary; and M. von Hammer (son of the celebrated historian), as Turkish

Interpreter. Thus the number amounts to thirteen persons, which the Viennese consider of evil augury—thirteen in council being thought as unlucky as thirteen at dinner. This superstitious feeling is not confined to the *gobemouches* of the coffee-houses and the Exchange; but is shared by more than one high member of the Conference. Possibly Riza Bey will not remain many days after the arrival of Ali Pacha; but, if he should, it has been rumoured that the number will be reduced to twelve by dispensing with the services of M. von Hammer. If Riza Bey should take his departure, M. von Hammer will be allowed to remain as dragoman for Arif Effendi, the only member of the Conference who does not speak French. M. de Nesselrode will not be present—which is a pity, were it only that he might renew or make the acquaintance of M. Drouyn de Lhuys.

Last week the people of Vienna were in high spirits. All was *couleur de rose*; and every one dreamed and spoke of peace. This week the colour is gory red; and war—bloody war—seems to be imminent. The Government and people of Austria ardently desire peace; but the more the question involved in the Conferences unfolds itself to their understanding, the more inclined they are to the opinion prevalent elsewhere—that things have either gone too far, or not far enough, to admit of the labours of diplomacy. If the Crimea had not been invaded, the Allies might have been contented to accept the overtures of Russia without insisting upon the destruction of Sebastopol; or if Sebastopol had been carried, or any decisive victory had been gained by the armies or fleets of Great Britain and France, Ambassadors and Ministers might hope to arrive at a satisfactory pacification. But in the purgatorial *juste milieu* in which affairs at present stand diplomacy serves no other purpose than to prove that the Allies are as willing to hear as they are to strike; and that if Russia desires peace she can have it, if she will



RAILWAY AT BALAKLAVA.—STATIONARY ENGINE BEYOND THE CAMP OF GENERAL VEREY.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

give security. The Austrian Government has been slow to understand all the difficulties of this very difficult question; but it should not be forgotten that Austria has acted from first to last with the strictest honour and integrity; that every step she has taken has been a step in advance; that her sympathies are, and have ever been, with France and England; that she has many powerful motives—of which financial ones are not the least—to dislike and avoid war; but that reason, State necessity, and justice, are still more powerful in impelling her to take part against Russia; and that she could not, even if disposed, recede from the position which she has already assumed, without incurring dangers infinitely greater than any to which she could be exposed by the enmity of the Czar. Though it is always unsafe to make predictions, and although at the present time, when events succeed each other with such unexpectedness and rapidity that they set all reasonable calculation and ordinary observation at defiance, it may be doubly hazardous to speculate upon the future, it is impossible for any one who knows anything of the Austrian people and Government to doubt their good faith. Austria will not, dare not, and cannot, draw back from the path into which she has entered. In the honour of France and England lies the safety of Europe. Diplomacy may prattle as it will; but, as long as the Russians keep us at bay before Sebastopol, nothing can come of the proceedings at Vienna but utter failure. Something else might come of them, if these two great nations were weak enough to withdraw from the Crimea without striking a blow, and gaining a great victory; and that something would be Shame and Dishonour. Great Britain and France will not inflict upon themselves so fatal a humiliation. Prussia herself, degraded as she is, would be entitled to assume a higher rank in the world than these two mighty States, if they could sacrifice in such a manner the prestige of their name, the glory of their arms, and the character of their Governments. The same reasoning, though with less force, will apply to Austria. Where England and France are compelled to lead, she will be compelled to follow. It may be inconvenient, but it is right; and Austria, though reluctant to draw the sword, will wield it with effect against the common enemy, whenever the last effort at pacification shall be proved to be unavailing.

**POSTSCRIPT.—PASSION WEEK IN VIENNA.—WASHING THE FEET OF THE POOR.**

(From our Special Correspondent.)

VIENNA, April 9th.

In the preceding letter is contained all the authentic information obtainable in Vienna on the subject of the Conferences, with the single exception of the fact that they are to be resumed this afternoon. Beyond this all is matter of speculation. In my next I shall probably be enabled to communicate something more positive than mere surmises. In the meantime a short description of some of the salient points of courtly and popular life in Vienna, as they struck the eyes of a stranger, during the week that has just elapsed, may prove interesting, if only as a relief to the eternal routine of politics, and the old, though engrossing, subjects of Peace and War.

The Viennese are as fond of pleasure as the Parisians. This day—after being long pent up in the observance of Lent—their gaiety breaks out in its full vigour, and the Prater swarms with crowds of all ranks and classes. "Es ist lustig hier am Prater," says Goethe, in "Faust;" and on Easter Monday the phrase is more especially applicable. But Passion Week, though the dullest of the year in Vienna, would possibly be accounted rather a gay week in London, if spent in the same manner by the soberer English people. Though the theatres and places of public amusement were closed, the streets for the last four days have been encumbered with crowds of citizens in their holiday attire, strolling forth to see and to be seen—the fair ladies sporting in all the hues of the rainbow, as if inviting the spring and summer not to be tardy, but to banish winter with the banishment of winter costume. So dense have been the multitudes that carriages have found it difficult to pierce their way through the moving masses; and the pedestrian whose business or amusement did not lead him with the stream had to fight against countless obstacles at every step of his progress, unless he were wise enough to strike out of the main streets, and percolate quietly through the byways. The public spectacles of the week have been rare; the only amusement offered being the oratorio of the "Creation"—very splendidly performed at the Burg Theatre. The churches have been crammed to suffocation at every hour of the day; the fine music, both vocal and instrumental, attracting thousands of persons who might not, perhaps, have even entered their doors had devotional feeling been the only motive that inspired them. The Court, also, contributed in an eminent degree to the gratification of those who delight in the brilliant and the imposing.

On Thursday the Emperor performed the ancient ceremony of the "Fusswaschung," in the Great Hall, or "Rittersaal," of the Imperial Palace. By eight o'clock in the morning, those who had been fortunate enough to procure tickets of admission (as I did, thanks to the excellent proprietor of the excellent Hôtel Munich, where I have been located for the last fortnight) began to pour into the avenues of the Palace, and by nine o'clock all the best places in the galleries erected for the purpose had been occupied. At ten o'clock the doors were closed. The *coup d'œil* presented in the noble apartment was particularly striking. The spectators, both ladies and gentlemen, were in full evening costume; and the places reserved for the nobility, the members of the Corps Diplomatique, and their families, were filled with all the rank and beauty of Vienna. On the right of the hall was arranged a table, on one side of which sat twelve old men, dressed in black serge, with large white collars;—these were the individuals whose feet the Emperor was to wash. The oldest was ninety-three and the youngest eighty-four years of age. They had been selected for the honour about to be conferred upon them on the three several grounds, united in each case, of old age, poverty, and good character. In the body of the Rittersaal coming and going, and forming themselves into groups, were some hundreds of the first nobles of the empire—most of them in military costume; and glowing in their white, blue, or scarlet uniforms. Precisely at half-past ten o'clock the sonorous chanting of priests, walking in procession through the hall, marked the commencement of the ceremony. The Emperor then entered, fol-

lowed by his father, the Archduke Francis Charles, by several other Archdukes and members of the Imperial Family, whose names I could not ascertain; and by Prince Charles Lichtenstein, the Grand Marshal of the Palace; and a brilliant cortège of general officers and Ministers of State. Next followed a long array of ushers and gentlemen of the Court, dressed in black—and some of them wearing crosses and orders on their breasts—each bearing a dinner-tray, containing some portion of a very recherche and elegant repast. I lost some portion of the ceremonial as soon as the Emperor entered, for my attention was for a time too earnestly directed towards him to permit of any close observation of other things. His Majesty is about four-and-twenty years of age, but looks younger. His bearing is manly and erect. He is well made and handsome; and in any society, or in any dress, would, by the grace of his manner and by his fine, athletic form, attract attention. But it can scarcely be said that his face is as prepossessing as his general appearance. His high forehead, and the whole contour of his head, betoken a superior intellect and an energetic will. Perhaps his firmness has a tendency to degenerate into obstinacy; but, however that may be, it is evident that he is one of those men who are not to be swayed from any purpose that they have deliberately formed, and who will go right on to their object, through every kind of difficulty and discouragement. If he take the right course Austria will be fortunate in possessing such a Sovereign. If he take the wrong one there will be dark days in store for his country and for himself. But of this there is little prospect. His public acts for the last three years have been of a character to attach to him the respect and gratitude of his people; and since he made a love-match and a happy marriage—proving thereby what some had previously doubted, more from his physiognomy than from his conduct, that he was in possession of a kindly human heart—his popularity has gone on increasing. This is a digression that may be excused, for the fate of Europe depends in no slight degree upon the conduct of this young Sovereign; who, more than any other man of the present day, under the peculiar circumstances of our time, has it in his power to influence the great war of Civilisation against Barbarism. If he give England and France the aid of his magnificent army of 600,000 men to repel the aggressions of Russia, as it is firmly believed he will, unless the Czar yield to the demands of the Allies, the war will be a short one. If he do not the war will linger, and Austria will ultimately be the greatest sufferer by it. But to return to the ceremonial. As each tray-bearer arrived with his burden, the Emperor disengaged him of it, and spread the viands on the table with all the *savoir faire* of an accomplished waiter. He seemed "to the manner born," and his agility and readiness would have done honour to a professional garçon of the *Trois Frères Provençaux* at Paris, or of a *Kellner* at the equally excellent restaurant of the *Hôtel Munich*. When the table had been spread, the Emperor spoke a few words to the nonagenarian, evidently inviting him and his eleven companions to partake of the good things set before him. The old gentleman rose, shook his head, and said something in reply, as evidently intimating that they could not think of dining in so august a presence. The Emperor did not press the point, for it was not in the programme, and immediately the viands were removed by the Archdukes and the members of the Imperial Family. The Archduke Francis Charles—the Emperor's father, and who might himself have been an Emperor if he had been disposed to assume the responsibility—performed the most active part in this stage of the ceremonial. A second course was brought in by the same attendants, in the same way, arranged on the table by the Emperor with the same coolness and agility, and removed by the Archdukes exactly as before—the only difference being that the twelve old men were not asked to partake, but were merely shown the good things which they were to discuss elsewhere, after the conclusion of the ceremony. A third course, and, ultimately, a very splendid dessert, were brought in, spread, and carried out, with precisely the same formalities; and thus this *faire-semblant* of a dinner was brought to a close. The table was then removed; and a long white cloth was spread over the knees of the twelve old men, concealing their legs and feet. The attendants, placing their hands under this cloth, removed the shoes and stockings of the whole twelve—leaving bare the aged feet, which had previously undergone sufficient ablution to be fit to be touched by the dainty fingers of a Kaiser. A priest, bearing a golden ewer half filled with water, and another priest holding a golden flagon also containing water, then proceeded to the real business of the morning. The Emperor knelt on his right knee, while the one attendant priest held the ewer under, and the other the flagon over, the foot to be honoured with the Imperial purification. The Emperor with his left hand sprinkled a little water from the ewer on the sole of the foot, while the priest poured a few drops from the flagon upon the instep. Then with his right hand the Emperor wiped the foot slightly with a towel and passed on to the next, performing the whole ceremony in somewhere less than three minutes. This done, his Majesty hung round the neck of each a little bag containing thirty pieces of silver of ten kreuzers each; and, amid the chanting of priests and choristers, and the sprinkling of incense, the ceremony was completed. The Emperor performed this part of the business, as well as every other, with gracefulness and self-possession—giving one the idea of a man who thought nothing too unmeaning or too commonplace to be done well, if it were necessary or desirable to do it at all. On ordinary occasions a similar honour is rendered by the Empress to twelve poor women; but this year, in consequence of the advent of the little Archduchess—now only a few weeks old—and the delicate condition of her Imperial Majesty, the ceremonial was shorn of more than one-half of its grace and beauty.

On Saturday there was a grand procession of the Imperial Court and household, and a review of troops in the court of the Palace, at which all the *élite* of Vienna were present. I had the good fortune to procure a place in the balcony of the Reichskanzlei; but it would occupy too much of your space if I were to enter into the particulars. This also is an annual ceremony, performed on the Saturday before Easter Sunday.

If the necessary funds can be raised, it is said that the next annual gathering of the Royal Agricultural Society will be held at Chelmsford.

BALA CLAVA RAILWAY.

THE navvies employed on the Balacala Railway continue to enjoy excellent health, work with steady and hearty goodwill, and, with very few exceptions, are described as giving no cause of complaint on account of their behaviour.

The view we have given this week represents the stationary engine for drawing goods up the incline. Some of the accounts speak of it as not adequate to the fulfilment of the task imposed on it. On the 23rd ult. twenty-four French wagons were loaded with *materiel* before half-past eleven o'clock, but the engines had not worked them up to the top of the incline at four o'clock. Perhaps it will be found advisable to give it a more moderate draught. An overtired engine is as bad economy as an overworked man.

On the 26th ult. the engineers expected to complete the line as far as the Turkish Camp, and in a week or ten days more it would be extended to Lord Raglan's head-quarters—a distance of about four and a half miles from Balacala. The main portion of the work would then be over, as the ground from head-quarters to the trenches is comparatively level.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

PARIS, Thursday.

THE arrival of Easter brings back all the movement and gaiety of the Carnival; and feasting and dancing, dressing and dining, become the order of the day. It is a strange, and to us incomprehensible, sign of the times that at the moment the country is engaged in a sanguinary, expensive, and, we cannot conceal from ourselves, in many respects disastrous war; when a series of bad seasons have made their ill-effects felt; and when these two combining causes have raised the price of every necessary and every luxury of life; that, in the midst of all these depressing influences, the taste for, and indulgence in, extravagances of all descriptions should have risen to the pitch it has now arrived at. In dress and in furniture this is particularly the case. Never did the streets and *salons* of Paris within our experience display the same *étagage* of velvets, satins, laces, plumes, and jewels, and these on people of less than moderate fortunes; never was there a greater demand for buhl and marqueterie, brocades and lampas; while the price of rents and wages, bread and meat, become daily more and more heavy pulls on the pockets and purses of every class of consumers: this must come to an end; when and how, are alarming questions.

The second day of Longchamps, under the influence of a bright sun-shine, which dazzled the promenaders out of the fact of the bitter north wind, that made great sport of their flimsy garments, was singularly brilliant. During a part of the day no less than seven compact lines of carriages, of one sort or another, defiled up and down the Avenue of the Champs Elysées, and the toilets displayed were of the most dazzling and *Mirobolante* description. Influenza and sore throats are abundant; but, of course, there is no connection between the two subjects. We merely make the remark *en passant*.

It is said that on the return of the Emperor and Empress from England, they intend inhabiting the Elysée, and resigning the Tuilleries to the Queen and her household, during her stay in Paris.

The Emperor has acceded to the petitions on the subject of the extension of the Palais d'Industrie, and the order for the execution of the necessary works is being carried into effect. No announcement of the opening of the building being deferred has yet been made, but the general impression is that it will be impossible for it to take place so early as the day appointed. It appears that, contrary to the first statement, there are to be two days in the week when the entrance will be free, to enable the poor and working-classes and their families to profit by the sight, which, under other circumstances, many of them would be deprived of. In the Gallery des Beaux Arts a sensible regulation has forbidden the admission of sketches and *ébauches*, and it is only to receive finished pictures.

The often-renewed, and till now as often-rejected, question of the imposition of a dog-tax has brought to light the following singular facts on the subject of the canine population of France—facts which we think would, if sooner revealed, terminated the question. There are, it appears, in round numbers, three millions of dogs in France, which cost in food eighty millions of francs, and communicate hydrophobia to 200 persons annually. It is supposed that the tax would *supprimer* (the statistic has a delicate consideration for the feelings of fanciers) about a third of the number; we humbly think, a larger proportion, as the greater part of the curs that infest the streets belong to persons who leave them pretty much to pick up their own livings among the offal thrown there, and who certainly would be extremely sorry to pay a tax for them.

A report went the round, a few days since, of the death of the Duchesse de Berry.

There is a question of raising two new regiments of infantry; but it is said that, instead of giving them new numbers, they will bear duplicate numbers (doubtless with some distinguishing mark) of two other regiments already existing. One of the reasons assigned for this plan is the design of deceiving the enemy as to the real number of the troops.

Among the works of improvement going on in Paris, those prosecuted on the ground formerly occupied by the Passage St. Pierre have led to a singular discovery—that of a quantity of human bones, in a state of perfect preservation, which, there is little doubt, are those of the victims of the massacre of St. Bartholomew, interred in the ancient cemetery of St. Merry. These remains have been transferred to the Catacombs.

Among the movements of journalism, it appears that M. Théophile Gautier (whose name stands almost at the head of the list of critics on art and the drama, and whose literary reputation on other points a number of most interesting and popular works has long since established) removes from the theatrical *feuilleton* of the *Presse* to that of the *Moniteur*. M. Gautier is also to render an account of the Exposition in all that relates to the domain of art. His engagement is, it appears, to last for five years, and it is to bring in a salary of 1200 francs a month. The place thus left vacant in the *Presse* is to be filled by M. Nestor Roque plan, late Director of the Grand Opera, who commenced his career as a journalist.

It is the *Austerlitz*—not the *Reine Hortense*, which has not quitted its station at Toulon—that is to convey the Emperor and Empress to England. The Emperor takes in his suite the Duc de Bassano (Grand Chamberlain), MM. Fleury, Toulougeon, Edgar Ney, and the Maréchal Vaillant. The Empress's suite consists of the Princesse d'Essling, Mmes. de Montebello and de Malaret, the Comte Tascher de la Pagerie (Grand-Maitre de la Maison), and the Baron de Pierre (Ecuier).

A correspondence from Constantinople asserts that preparations are still being carried on there with the utmost activity for the reception of their Imperial Majesties; and that three Armenian ladies of the best society have been named to serve as attendants and interpreters to the Empress.

The Grand Opera has a *reprise* of the "Prophète" for the reappearance of Madame Stoltz. The celebrated *cantatrice* has but just recovered from severe illness, and her consequent weakness, joined to the emotion she experienced on the occasion, made itself somewhat felt in her voice: there is, however, every reason to suppose that with the return of strength will be restored her usual superiority. A new opera by Signor Billetti, which is highly spoken of, is to produce Mlle. Cinti Damoreau, of whom such great things are said that we hope the public may not be disappointed. Rossini is expected in Paris. A story is going the rounds that, in order to repair certain losses sustained in 1848, the maestro proposes to sell to any amateur or speculator who chooses to become the purchaser the entire copyright of a "Macbeth" that he has lately composed, and that the Marquis of Hertford proposes to acquire possession of the work for 200,000 francs. What to do with it seems a question that is not regarded. The celebrated pianist Emile Prudent has just published two new pieces, "La Barcarolle," and "Les Naiades," which promise to become highly popular.

## THE WAR IN THE CRIMEA.

ONCE more we are told that the grand assault is at last about to be made. The letters which arrived by the *Clyde* steamer say, "The general opinion is, that within three or four days, at latest, we shall open; and I certainly think," says our Correspondent, writing on the 26th, "such a step will be taken in the course of another week at latest." Since the receipt of that intelligence, a telegraphic despatch from Marseilles, dated Thursday, announces the arrival of the *Hydaspes*, which left Constantinople on the 2nd inst., with news from the Camp to the 31st. The substance of it is, "that the Russians have constructed two new batteries, and have converted the ambuscades into an advance par allel." These batteries will, no doubt, be in front of the Malakoff Tower, that being the point toward which all the efforts of the besiegers, as well as the besieged, have been directed lately. The despatch from Marseilles states also that "the Allies have constructed two new batteries;" that "the fire has been slack;" and, as regards the long-expected assault, "it was said positively that the bombardment would commence on the 3rd of April." A letter from the Camp, dated March 26th, says:—

"What will be the result of this second bomb ardiment of course none can tell; but our engineer officers seem at last confident that the place will be ours, though not without a desperate contest. One thing, however, is a matter of positive certainty—namely, that, if the Allied Commanders wish it, the whole town could be utterly destroyed in twenty-four hours. Not one stone will remain upon another if our guns and mortars are directed against it."

Up to the 6th inst., however, if we may rely upon the telegraph, the grand trial of strength had not been made. A despatch of that date affirms that nothing decisive had yet taken place. The French held their ground before the Malakoff Tower.

The *Ost-Deutsche Post* of Vienna says:—

The intention is that General Bosquet shall drive General Liprandi from his position, while General Canrobert will direct the operations against the Malakoff Tower in person: General Pelissier commands the reserve. From the heights of the French Camp, caravans of men, women, and children have been latterly seen to quit Sebastopol with their effects. One of these, which took the direction Bagcheserai, was preceded by a procession bearing sacred banners, and escorted by about forty Cossacks. Our letters state that many Russian soldiers take advantage of the sorties to pass over to the Allies.

The statement relative to the caravans of men, women, and children leaving Sebastopol is corroborated by the *Military Gazette* of Vienna, which says that General Osten-Sacken published an order of the day enjoining all females to quit the town at once. The Grand Duke Nicholas, taking the case of these poor women into consideration, has given from his own purse 100 roubles to each woman having a family, to enable her to remove; and from 20 to 50 roubles to each unmarried female. It was naturally supposed that this order was given in anticipation of a serious attack.

There have been various rumours regarding the operations of Omer Pacha, who is said to have advanced from Eupatoria towards Old Fort, with the intention of supporting a movement of the Allies. This is premature. The Turkish Commander has merely thrown out a covering party while advancing the fortifications of the town, so as to give the Russians a much warmer reception, should they attack him again. His army, it appears, has been strengthened by the addition of 8000 Egyptian troops.

## THE SORTIE ON THE 23RD OF MARCH.

The letters received by the *Clyde*, which left Constantinople on the 29th ult., give ample details of the part which the English troops took in the affair of the 23rd. We are glad to learn that the number killed and wounded is not so great as was at first supposed. Instead of nearly 100 killed, wounded, and missing, our loss did not amount to much more than half that number; and Lieut.-Colonel Kelly, of the 34th Regiment, is alive in Sebastopol, with a slight wound. Captain Montagu, Royal Engineers, is also a prisoner.

It appears that at the time the heavy fire between the French and Russians was going on a portion of the 90th Regiment were employed on fatigue duty on the right of the new advanced works on our right attack. They were in the act of returning to their posts in the Gordon Battery just at the moment the heavy firing on the right had ceased, when a scattered irregular fusillade commenced in the dark, on the left of their position close to the Mortar Battery. Captain Vaughan, who commanded the party of the 90th, ordered his men to advance along the covered way to the works. They moved up in double time, and found the Russians in complete possession of the Mortar Battery. The 90th at once opened as heavy a fire of musketry as they could upon the enemy, who returned it; but the coolness and steadiness of our men were giving us the advantage, when an alarm was given that our men were firing on the French; but the mistake was speedily discovered by the enemy's fire being poured in with more deadly effect, and the small party of the 90th were thrown into great confusion. Captain Vaughan at this moment shouted, "Men of the 90th, follow me!" and Sergeant Henry Clarke, Sergeant Brittle, a sergeant of the 7th Fusiliers, about fourteen men of the 90th, and a few of the 7th, dashed out of the confused ranks, and rushed right into the Mortar Battery. In a few moments these brave fellows drove the enemy beyond the first traverse, and at the narrow way leading into the second traverse they made a stand, and opened a heavy flanking fire on the parapet, over which the Russians were making determined efforts to come upon them. The narrow pass was meantime defended by the sergeants and a few men, who delivered fire as fast as they could load right into the Russians, who gradually began to give way. With a loud "hurrah" the gallant little band sprang with the bayonet upon the enemy, who at once precipitately retired over the parapet, followed by our rifle balls, which were poured in upon them incessantly, till every round in the men's pouches was expended. In order to keep up the fire, the men groped about among the dead Russians, and exhausted all the cartridges they could find in the enemy's pouches. At the first charge at the Mortar Battery the Russian leader, who wore an Albanian costume, and whose gallantry was most conspicuous, fell dead. As an act of justice, the names of the officers and men of the party of the 90th Regiment whose conduct was distinguished in this affair should be recorded. They are—Clarke, Brittle, and Essex (sergeants); Caruthers, severely wounded (corporal); Fare, Walsh, Nicholson (wounded), and Nash. Captain Vaughan received a severe contusion in the affair. The courage displayed by Captain Cavendish Browne, of the 7th, in another part of the works, was most conspicuous. He was severely wounded at the commencement of the attack, but he refused to go to the rear, though nearly fainting from loss of blood. He led on his men, encouraging them by voice and gesture, to the front. When his body was found it lay far in advance of our line, with three balls in the chest. The 77th Regiment behaved admirably, and Major-General Codrington has communicated to the 88th, and the other regiments of the brigade of the Light Division engaged, the satisfaction of Sir George Brown at their gallant conduct. It is not known how many Albanian chiefs there were with the Russians, but the two who were killed led them on with intrepidity and ferocious courage. One of them, who struggled into the battery in spite of a severe wound, while his life-blood was ebbing fast, rushed at a powder-barrel and fired his pistol into it before he fell. Fortunately, the powder did not explode, as the fire did not go through the wood. Another charged with a scimitar in one hand, and a formidable curved blade (which he used as a dagger) in the other, right into our ranks twice, and fell dead the second time, perforated with balls and bayonets. They were magnificently dressed, and it is supposed they were men of rank.

## AN ARMISTICE.

On the morning of the 24th ult. a flag of truce was sent to Sebastopol by the Allies with a proposition to the Russians for an armistice, to bury the dead, which were lying in numbers—five or six Russians to every Frenchman and Englishman—in front of the Round Tower and Mamelon; after some delay, an answer in the affirmative was returned; and it was arranged that two hours should be granted for collecting and carrying away the dead on both sides. The news spread through the camps; and the races which the Chasseurs d'Afrique had got up in excellent style were much shorn of their attractions by the opportunity afforded to the French and English of meeting their enemies on neutral ground. All the ravines leading to the front trenches were crowded with officers hastening on horse and foot down to the scene of so much hard fighting. The crests of the hills and the slopes in front of the batteries were covered with men, and they dotted the deadly interval between the batteries, which had been before occupied alone by thousands of tons of shot and fragments of shell discharged by French and English and Russians during this protracted siege.

The day was beautifully bright and warm. White flags waved gently in the faint spring breeze above the embrasures of our batteries, and from the Round Tower and Mamelon. Not a soul had been visible in front of the lines an instant before the emblems of peace were run up to the flag-staffs, and a sullen gun from the Mamelon and a burst of smoke from Gordon's batteries had but a short time previously heralded the armistice. The instant the flags were hoisted friend and foe swarmed out of the em-

brasures. The riflemen of the Allies and the enemy rose from their lairs in the rifle-pits, and sauntered towards each other to behold their grim handiwork. The whole of the space between the Russian lines and our own was filled with groups of unarmed soldiery. The sight was strange beyond description. French, English, and Russian officers were walking about, saluting each other courteously as they passed, and occasionally entering into conversation; and a constant interchange of little civilities, such as offering and receiving cigar lights, was going on in each little group. Some of the Russian officers were evidently men of high rank and breeding. Their polished manners contrasted remarkably with their plain and rather coarse clothing. They wore, with few exceptions, the invariable long grey coat over their uniforms. The French officers were all *en grande tenue*, and offered a striking contrast to many of our English officers, who were dressed à la Balaclava, and wore uncouth head-dresses, catkin coats, and nondescript paletots. Many of the Russians looked remarkably like English gentlemen in "style" of face and bearing. One tall, fine-looking old man, with a long grey beard, and strangely-shaped cap, was pointed out as Hetman of the Cossacks in the Crimea; but it did not appear as if there were many men of very high military rank present. The Russians were rather grave and reserved, but they seemed to fraternise with the French better than with the English, and the men certainly got on better with our allies than with the few privates of our own regiments who were down towards the front.

The Russians appeared to treat their dead with great respect. Most of the soldiers were white-faced and seemed ill-fed, though many of them had powerful frames, square shoulders, and broad chests. All their dead who fell within and near our lines were stripped of boots and stockings. The cleanliness of their feet, and, in most cases, of their coarse linen shirts, was remarkable. Several sailors of the "equipages" of the fleet of Sebastopol were killed in the attack. They were generally fine muscular fellows, with rough, soldierly faces. The Russians carried off all the dead which lay outside our lines to the town, passing down between the Mamelon and the Round Tower. In the midst of all this stern evidence of war a certain amount of lively conversation began to spring up, in which the Russian officers indulged in a little badinage. Some of them asked our officers "when we were coming in to take the place;" others, "when we thought of going away?" Some congratulated the Allies upon the excellent opportunity they had of getting a good look at Sebastopol, as the chance of a nearer view, except on similar occasions, was not, in their opinion, very probable. One officer asked a private confidentially, in English, how many men they sent into the trenches? "Begorra, only 7000 a night, and a wake covering party of 10,000," was the ready reply. The officer laughed and turned away. At one time a Russian with a litter stopped by a dead body, and put it into the litter. He looked round for a comrade to help him. A Zouave at once advanced with much grace and lifted it, to the infinite amusement of the bystanders; but the joke was not long-lived, as a Russian busily came up and helped to carry off his dead comrade.

In the town large bodies of soldiery were seen in the streets, assembled at the corners and in the public places. Probably they were ordered out to make a show of their strength. The Russians denied that Prince Menschikoff was dead, but they admitted that Admiral Isturmin was killed. He was one of the principal officers engaged in the destruction of the Turkish fleet at Sinope, and the Czar had rewarded him by giving him an order of St. George of higher distinction than that worn by Prince Menschikoff, and of a class which is generally accorded only to successful generals who have conducted an army and closed a triumphant campaign. A distinguished-looking man, who complained that he was likely to be deprived of his cruise in his yacht this year by the war, was pointed out as Prince Baratinski. Owing to some misunderstanding or other, a little fusillade began among the riflemen on the left during the armistice, which caused a little alarm for a moment, but it was soon terminated. General Bosquet and several officers of rank of the Allied army visited the trenches during the armistice, and staff officers were present on both sides to see that the men did not go out of bounds. The armistice was over about three o'clock. Scarcely had the white flag disappeared behind the parapet of the Mamelon before a round-shot from the Sailors' Battery went slap through one of the embrasures of the Russian work, and dashed up a great pillar of earth inside. The Russians at once replied, and the noise of cannon soon re-echoed through the ravines.

## THE ADVANCED SQUADRON OF THE BALTIC FLEET.

The advanced squadron of the Baltic fleet arrived at Elsinore on the 1st of April, but, owing to the masses of drift ice and strong current, were unable to remain there—three (the *Arrogant*, *Tartar*, and *Cossack*) having parted their anchors; so they all got under way and proceeded to Landskrona, where they were joined by the *Amphion* on the 3rd inst., one of the "lame ducks." The *Archer* had not made her appearance. The *Amphion* got on shore near the anchorage, through the ignorance of the pilot; but it was not supposed that she had injured herself, as the mud is very soft. The *Impérieuse* and *Euryalus*, being of too much draught of water to pass through the Sound, parted company for Kiel, leaving the squadron under the command of Captain Yelverton, her Majesty's ship *Arrogant*. Some of the colliers sent out to supply the squadron with coals have fired but badly—one having foundered, and two or three others more or less injured, when trying to pass the Sound. Landskrona is a very snug little harbour, and it is expected that the ships will remain there till the Sound is entirely clear of ice.

A letter from Cherbourg says:—"The screw line-of-battle ship *Austerlitz*, which had been preparing to convey the Emperor and Empress to England, has received counter-orders, and is to proceed almost immediately to the Baltic, to operate with the English squadron. Four other line-of-battle ships have been ordered to proceed to the Downs to serve as an escort to their Majesties in crossing the Channel, after which these vessels will also join the Baltic fleet."

A letter from Elsinore states that a Russian merchant vessel is lying there "which came in the autumn to take in a cargo of salt, and which got locked up in the ice. There are others similarly situated at Gothenburg and on different points of the coast; all of them came for salt, which appears to be wanted in Russia. They will probably be all captured by the English."

The Russians appear to be adopting the same mode of resisting invasion in the Baltic as they did in the Black Sea. The approaches to Abo, Helsingfors, and every town on the coast from Wyborg up to Tornia, have been rendered impassable by the sinking of vessels in the sailing-channel; in Abo, Björneborg, and other towns, the inhabitants have formed themselves into sharpshooter corps, and armed themselves with double-barrelled rifles. On the southern coast of the Baltic the conviction is general that Riga will be the first point attacked in the coming Baltic campaign. On the sea-side vessels and large blocks of stone are being sunk at the entrance to the bay, so that the shallowest-going craft will not be able to pass Dunamunde. At the further end of the bay there have been several heavily-armed batteries erected, in a semicircular form. On the land side a fortified camp is being formed, capable of containing two divisions of Russian troops. The Baltic army, which was to be brought up to 100,000 men by the late Emperor, is now about to be raised to 140,000 men.

## PERSIA.

The Hon. Mr. Murray arrived in Teheran towards the latter end of February. The camp at Sultanieh was decided on, and 40,000 to 50,000 men, with 100 pieces of artillery, were to compose the force. The Government has ample supplies of provisions and ammunition; but the great sinew of war—money—is very scarce. The pressure on the treasury is to be remedied by an increase of taxes, which are ordered to be levied in the shape of capitulation money. The Persians are impatient to see what the true intentions of the Western Powers are as regards their country. They would willingly pick a quarrel with the Russians, and declare war in favour of Turkey, if England and France would guarantee the restoration of the province of Karabagh, lost in the last war. On the other hand, if Russia offers her co-operation in taking the shrines of Kerbella from the Turks, there is not the least doubt that they would side with her. Much will depend upon what takes place in the Crimea. So long as the prestige of Russia remains uninjured, as is the case at present, Persia will naturally lean to the side of its powerful neighbour.

## AMERICA.

The mail steam-ship *Africa*, which left New York on the 27th and Halifax on the 29th ult., arrived at Liverpool on Sunday.

The *New York Herald* of the 27th makes reference to proceedings taken in New York for or by the British Government for the procuring of recruits for the British army. A Mr. Angus McDonald advertises that he is prepared to forward men willing to serve to Nova Scotia:—

It is to be presumed (says the *Herald*) that Mr. Angus McDonald and the parties who are connected with the Chatham-street recruiting dépôt act in ignorance of the law which renders any such proceedings as theirs a misdemeanour at law, and punishable under the United States statute. Neither the British Government nor any one on its behalf has a right to recruit soldiers within the United States; and any and all proceedings taken with that aim fall clearly within the provision of the statute, and call for the interference of the district attorney. It behoves Mr. Keon to see that residents of New York are not entrapped or seduced to serve in foreign armies.

The advices from California are to the 1st ult. The papers are occupied with further particulars of the great financial crash, of which the announcement was made by the steamer of last week. The house of Wells, Fargo, and Co., after a full meeting of their creditors, who agreed to wait upon them for thirty or sixty days, had resumed business, and is now in active operation. Adams and Co. had applied for the benefit of the Insolvent Act, and it was thought would be able to pay but a small per-cent on their liabilities. It was supposed that Page, Bacon, and Co. were still solvent, but, not having control of their resources, would defer the resumption of payments until a future time. The appearance of the long-wished-for rains at the mines had brightened the prospects in that quarter, and it was anticipated that a greater amount of gold would be realised during the month of March than had been taken for the same space of time since the discovery of the mines.

The Canada Militia Bill passed the second reading in the Legislative Assembly by a large majority. This seems to place the carrying of the measure beyond a doubt.

Hayannah news to the 17th ult. had been received, per *Black Warrior*, by way of New Orleans. The only points of interest were the arrest of Mr. Thompson, U.S. Consul at Segua, and the fate of the alleged conspirators Pinto, Cadalso, and Pinelo.

## THE BALLARAT INSURRECTION.

Letters from Melbourne, of Jan. 29, state that the Crown prisoners implicated in the Ballarat riots, or insurrection, were then still waiting trial; and that it was doubtful whether the Crown would be able to secure convictions in these cases. There had been some unfortunate management of other cases, which seemed to indicate partiality and unfairness in the mode of dealing with parties implicated in the Ballarat affair. It is said that the police troopers continued their attacks upon the rioters and supposed rioters after the armed insurgents were completely overcome. Some were shot down, others sabred, some killed, and many wounded after the troops had treated the insurgents as beaten, and, as soldiers usually do, had ceased to fire. Several meetings have taken place at the diggings to memorialise for an amnesty. These meetings were all of a peaceable character.

The six men charged with sedition and riot on the day of the "license hunt" of the 30th of November were tried on the 19th of January. The jury returned a verdict of not guilty against the whole of the defendants.

**PRUSSIAN CALAMITIES.**—In the midst of the great endeavours Prussia has been making to escape the horrors, or the burdens of war, even at the expense of her position in Europe, that country has been afflicted during the last six months with three heavy visitations in the shape of inundations. Last autumn it was the Oder and several minor rivers in Silesia that, swelled above their banks by heavy and continued rains, spread desolation and misery over the surrounding country. More recently the Rhine has exceeded its legitimate bed, and impoverished, if not ruined, large tracts of fertile land; and now the most heart-stirring appeals are being made to the charitable feelings of the public on behalf of sufferers by most extensive overflows of the Vistula, in the province of East Prussia.

## MEETING AT SURAT, IN AID OF THE PATRIOTIC FUND.

**KNOWING** (says a Correspondent, writing from Surat) how great an interest is taken, in England and elsewhere, in the object of the Patriotic Fund, I enclose a Sketch of the scene at the meeting in aid of the Fund which took place in the Mess-house of the 9th Regiment Bombay Native Infantry, at Surat. The scene was very striking. The Mussulmans and Boras, with their beards and general picturesque costume; the Brahmins and other Hindoos, with their peculiarly-shaped turbans; and the Parsees, whose turban, or rather, as it appears to the uninitiated, helmet of oil-cloth, is perhaps the most ugly of all known head-dresses—whilst the more sober costume of the English or "Sahib tog" mixed agreeably with the white, red, and yellow of the natives. The meeting was well attended, and able speeches were made both in English and Guzerattee. The exertions of the committee, especially of Mr. Hibbert (the Judge of Surat), who is president, and Captain A. B. Church, 9th Regiment, the secretary, have been well rewarded, as already more than 6500 rs. (£650) have been collected, and it is expected that 7000 rs. will be remitted to Bombay. Amongst some of the larger subscriptions I may mention the widow of the late Nawab, 310 rs.; a Rajah in the neighbourhood of Baroda sent 1000 rs.; whilst the Moolah, or High Priest of the Boras (who, it may be well to mention, are dissenting Mussulmans), gave 500 rs.; Mr. Meerwanjee Hormusjee, 225 rs.; and Mr. Liddell, the collector, 100 rs.

The natives take great interest in the war, and though they, or at least the greater part of them, have but a vague notion of its origin and progress, yet they justly have a horror of the "Russes tog."

I remain, &c.,

JOHN G. WATTS, 9th Regt. N.I.

## GRAND BANQUET AT THE MANSION-HOUSE.

THE Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress received a numerous and distinguished company at the Easter entertainment, given, in accordance with immemorial custom, at the Mansion-house on Monday evening. A more than ordinary amount of *éclat* was imparted to the occasion by the circumstance that his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge had announced his intention to be present; and in consequence immense crowds of persons lined the streets conducting from the Strand to the Poultry, who greeted his Royal Highness, not merely with those outward marks of respect which the English people generally award to members of the reigning house, but with a hearty enthusiasm that showed their appreciation of the character of the illustrious visitor, alike as a patriot and a soldier. Indeed, his Royal Highness's progress through the City in an open carriage and pair was a perfect ovation. On alighting at the Mansion-house, he was received by a guard of honour, consisting of picked men from the Grenadiers and light companies of the City of London Militia, under the command of Captains Browne and Grant; and the cheering with which he was welcomed by the crowd outside was continued long after he had disappeared from their view. The military bearing of the soldiers composing the guard of honour struck all who saw them as indicating a high state of discipline; and we understand that the fact did not escape the notice of his Royal Highness, and that he was pleased to convey his sentiments to the officers in command to that effect in the course of the evening.

Amongst the more distinguished guests, besides his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, were the Turkish Minister, the Brazilian Minister, the American Minister, the Danish Minister, the Swedish Minister, the Hanseatic States Minister; Admiral the Viscount de Chabannes, of the French Navy; the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Marquis of Breadalbane, and the Bishop of Oxford. The general company included the Hon. J. Leslie Melville, Mr. Kinnaird, M.P., Major Fitzmaurice, Sir F. T. Baring, M.P., Sir Hamilton Seymour, Sir W. G. Ouseley, Lieut.-General Sir George Pollock, Sir Edward Ryan, Sir George Lee, Mr. Masterman, M.P., Mr. Bass, M.P., Mr. F. French, M.P., Admiral Ryde Burton, Colonel Sykes, Colonel Mayne, Lieut.-Colonel Tyrwhitt, Lieut.-Colonel Hill, Lieut.-Colonel McCaul, Major Clifton, Captain Hatton, Captain Hibbert, Captain Hall, Captain Brooke, Captain Grant; Aldermen Farebrother, Farncomb, Sidney, Wilson, and Humphrey; Sir G. Carroll, Sir James Duke, M.P., Sir J. Musgrave



RECEPTION OF HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE AT THE MANSION-HOUSE BY THE LORD MAYOR.

As or himself, he had done nothing more than his duty, but he felt that those over whom he had had the honour and satisfaction of being placed in command had nobly conducted themselves, and, in short, achieved all the glory (Loud cheers). A General placed in high command has, indeed, no easy task; but, when supported, as he had been, by such men as the officers and soldiers of the First Division, or any other division of the British Army, he feels assured in the consciousness that that indomitable spirit which pervades every rank, from the highest to the lowest in his command, that it will not fail him in the hour of peril, but that the honour of the country must always be safe in such hands (Loud cheers.) But, in addition to having such men under his command, he had also had the advantage of acting with allies with whom it had always been his greatest pride and pleasure to be associated (Loud cheers.) He saw near him a gallant Admiral with whom he was associated in the Mediterranean, and he was glad to have the opportunity of assuring him and his country that one of the greatest sources of satisfaction had been his association with the French army in the Crimea (Loud cheers). That great alliance, so happily cemented, and which, thank God, was grow-

ing more intimate from day to day, would soon receive a new impulse from the arrival in this country of that great and illustrious man who now rules over a neighbouring and mighty nation (Loud cheers). May that alliance be of long duration, and may such a friendship be cemented between England and France as is necessary to secure the peace of the world (Hear).

The Lord Mayor next gave the "United naval and military services of England and France," associating with the toast the names of Admiral de Chabannes, Sir George Pollock, and Admiral Ryder Burton.

Sir G. Pollock briefly returned thanks for the military service.

The Vicomte de Chabannes, who spoke excellent English, returned thanks for the French naval service, at the same time vouching for the friendly feeling of the French navy for its kindred service in England (Cheers). The same feeling existed between the two armies, and was, if possible, stronger, because it was stimulated by common action, common duties, mutual assistance, mutual esteem, and the great hardships which both had suffered together (Cheers).

Admiral Ryder Burton briefly returned thanks for the British Navy, but expressed his regret that two proposals he had made—one to lead the Allied

fleets into Sebastopol, and another to burn the Russian fleet—had not been entertained by our Government.

The Lord Mayor gave, with one or two observations, "Her Majesty's Ministers," coupling with it the name of the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer, in returning thanks, said that the illustrious Duke who had recently addressed them had attributed much of his success to the officers and men by whom he was supported. In the same way did her Majesty's Ministers derive strength from the support they received from the great communities of this country, such as he now saw represented in that hall, communities celebrated for their industry, wealth, and power. Such support was in some sort a sharing of the responsibility of public affairs and a sure way of bringing them to a successful termination. It was only by the aid of well-earned public confidence that Ministers could get on with their difficult task, and that confidence was the more especially necessary in the office which he had the honour to fill.

Several other toasts were given, and suitably responded to, after which the company adjourned to the drawing-room.



MEETING AT SURAT, IN AID OF THE PATRIOTIC FUND.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)



OPENING OF THE EAST INDIAN RAILWAY.—THE BURDWAN STATION.

## OPENING OF THE CALCUTTA, DELHI, AND LAHORE RAILWAY.

THE official inauguration of the opening of this gigantic line of railway (of which we gave a description in our publication of March 24th) took place on the 3rd of February.

The building represented in the Engraving we have given is the Burdwan Station, sixty-six miles from Calcutta, at which place the Company gave a champagne breakfast on the day of opening to about 700 guests, including most of the leading men in Calcutta. From the station a leafy arcade, richly garlanded with flowers and banners, conducted across the Grand Trunk Road to an enclosure where the breakfast had been tastefully laid out in tents. The Maharajah of Burdwan had sent his mounted body guard, and a number of sepoys, in honour of the Governor-General's anticipated visit. He also kindly lent his magnificent shawl tents, with silver poles, for the accommodation of the principal guests. After an excellent breakfast, at which a number of loyal and appropriate toasts were given, the company returned to Calcutta at an early hour in the afternoon.

## CANOSA.—EXCAVATIONS OF GREEK TOMBS IN 1854-55, AND RESTORATIONS IN 1855.

(From our own Correspondent.)

WHilst the excavations of Pompeii have of late been unattended with any important results, those of Canosa, on the contrary, have been full of the deepest interest. One of the most classical tombs discovered in this city within the last few years has been already described in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS. During 1854-55 the excavations have been continued; and, whilst treasures of art have been brought to light, funereal chambers of great architectural beauty have been disclosed to public view. The Engraving represents in three several compartments, as it were, the tombs just discovered; the portion of the ground not yet excavated; and the tomb already illustrated, with the exception of the intended restorations above, and a small chamber just discovered on the left. The compartment which we first described contained the entrances and the "prospero" of the newly-excavated funereal chambers, decorated with columns and frontispieces. The doors have

an Oriental character, narrowing towards the upper part—thus resembling the monuments of Assyria and Egypt. Two columns of the Ionic style, terminating with a frontispiece, ornament these entrances, and the whole "fondo" is painted a dark red and blue. In the tomb facing us, perhaps, the master of the family was buried; whilst in the lateral chambers the women of the family were laid. And now we describe a state of things which would appear to be almost fabulous. Human skeletons were here extended on beds of bronze, decorated with statuettes and ornaments in ivory. The ground was beset with filaments of gold, belonging certainly to a carpet, or some golden web; whilst round its walls were grouped vases of terra cotta, of various forms, but all extremely graceful. There were also paterae containing eggs and various kinds of eatables, whilst others had obviously contained liquids, as the deposit yet remained. In the female chambers were discovered a skeleton of one—young and beautiful, perhaps, when she died—wearing earrings which represented two peacocks, the colour of the plumage being produced by smalt upon gold. The arms were adorned with bracelets of gold, in the form of a serpent. The dress of this relic of mortality must have been



TOMB JUST DISCOVERED AT CANOSA; AND PROJECTED RESTORATION OF ADJOINING TOMB.

embroidered, for garlands of myrtle were found, both the leaves and the berries made of gold leaf; and in these are still visible the holes which were perforated when they were attached to the dress. A diadem of flowers, mysterious as were those of the asphodel, was ranged around the head. The cups of the flowers were of various colours, and were represented by rubies, by jacinths, and by emeralds, and some by small of various colours. That, however, which merits a distinct notice is a ring, which was found on the finger of this skeleton. It is formed of two clubs of Hercules, completing a circle, and terminating beneath in what is called the knot of Hercules, in the middle of which is a ruby. The upper part of the ring is a box, made to hold hair or perfume, and the cover is formed of a gorgeous emerald. The whole body of the ring is adorned with beautiful designs in filigree, which are the admiration of all the goldsmiths in Naples. The archaeologists have been more particularly delighted with two gold medals found in this same tomb—having on one side, in relief, the figure of a bull, the symbol of the earth; and on the other the head of the fountain of Juno, crowned with reeds. Such are the principal objects which have been discovered within this highly interesting tomb; the description of which will appear as fabulous almost as any of the illusions of the "Arabian Nights," but we have seen these objects within the last twenty-four hours, and seeing is believing. Passing to the second compartment, which we have marked B, and which is as yet untouched, nothing more is to be said than that the works will be resumed here after Easter. The portion of the design marked C has on the left side a small lateral room, just discovered. The entrance is decorated with two columns and a frontispiece. In this chamber were found the remains of a battle-horse, which had been sacrificed on the death of a warrior here buried. Its harness, ornaments, and bridle—all in bronze—were found here, as also a quantity of arms of various kinds. Some, perhaps, had served the purposes of the warrior, and some were trophies. The lower part of the tomb facing us in this compartment is that which has been already described in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS. In a short time it will be restored, according to the design here given, and with the original materials, which have been collected, and are carefully preserved in a chamber close at hand. The shade on the upper tier of columns marks the condition in which they were found, and their actual state. The restoration will commence from the shade line; and, when completed, this tomb will form an architectural curiosity perfectly unique. We may venture here to express a hope that his Sicilian Majesty, who has prosecuted these excavations hitherto with so much spirit, and has been so ably seconded by the Princes Bisignano and St. George, will not relax his efforts in a work in which the whole artistic and antiquarian world is so deeply interested. It is expected that Signor Bonucci, director of the excavations, will resume operations immediately after Easter.

HENRY WREDFORD.

#### CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

SUNDAY, April 15.—1st Sunday after Easter. Mutiny at Spithead, 1797.  
MONDAY, 16.—Buffon died, 1788.  
TUESDAY, 17.—Abernethy died, 1831.  
WEDNESDAY, 18.—Oxford and Cambridge Term ends.  
THURSDAY, 19.—St. Alphege. Lord Byron died, 1824.  
FRIDAY, 20.—Spanish Fleet destroyed by Admiral Blake, 1657.  
SATURDAY, 21.—Bishop Heber born, 1783.

#### HIGH WATER AT LONDON-BRIDGE, FOR THE WEEK ENDING APRIL 21.

Sunday.	Monday.	Tuesday.	Wednesday.	Thursday.	Friday.	Saturday.
M h m 1 23	A h m 1 44	M h m 2 3	M h m 2 23	A h m 2 44	M h m 3 3	M h m 3 21

#### THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, APRIL 14, 1855.

PARLIAMENT will reassemble under peculiar circumstances—not the least remarkable of which is the paralysation of party action under the influence of the double crisis. A few days must bring decisive tidings from Vienna, and may bring them from Sebastopol. We may hear that Alexander II. has consented to surrender Russian ascendancy in the Euxine; we may be informed that Canrobert and Raglan have anticipated his Imperial Majesty's resolution; or, as now seems to be expected, we may learn that the peace negotiations cannot be protracted with advantage. Whatever be the situation into which events may resolve themselves during the present month, it will be a very grave one; and faction—let it range itself on which side it may—must be silenced in presence of such operations. The visit of the Emperor of the French will, moreover, force the Houses of Parliament into a sort of holiday demonstration. There must be gratulations and compliments; and these, in ordinary decorum, must be unanimous. A family may be at extremely high words—and that species of aggravation which can be practised advantageously only in families, from the intimate knowledge each belligerent possesses of the weak points of all the others, may be at its intensest, when a visitor's entrance lays the whole storm. A general expression of gladness, and particular justifications of such gladness at such a time, and amiable testimonies to the hopes which had been previously expressed that such a visit should take place, succeed to the taunt and the homethrust; and not only is there peace for the time, but after the guest's departure the interval of courtesy is found to have done good. Something of this sort will be seen to have taken place in the House of Commons. Mr. Disraeli is "well up" in the supposed weak places of the Ministry, which he considers too aristocratic for such a country as this; besides its having a coalition taint upon it, and possessing no fixed principles, and being altogether incapable, and so forth; and Lord Palmerston is seldom at a loss for retort upon a party that is hungry for office, but distrusts its leaders, has little or no talent in its ranks, and is obnoxious to the nation; nor are the *dii minores* on either side much less ready with similar charges and counter-charges. But we shall not hear much of this kind of thing while the Emperor of the French is here. The satisfaction of Lord Palmerston at the presence of our noble ally will only be equalled by the delight of Mr. Disraeli that a great and wise Monarch should have selected such a time for his appearance; and perhaps the leader of Opposition will even congratulate her Majesty on having some one in the country who can give her judicious counsel at such a formidable conjuncture. And if the importance of the crisis should prove insufficient to ensure a statesmanlike gravity in its treatment, the duty prescribed by courtesy to the illustrious guest will infuse a becoming tone into the Parliamentary discussions of the time.

But the "lull," we take it, will not be of any long duration. The attitude of all parties must necessarily be that of expectation, for the moment, and any premature move would be received with the utmost impatience. There will be a home conflict, let the European question be decided which way it may. The conduct of the war, or the conditions of the peace, will supply equally matter for those who are bent on political strife; but still they must wait and see whether it is with war or peace that they are to be indignant. As soon as this is known the trumpet will, doubtless, give no uncertain sound. In the mean time, perhaps,

the Budget may afford earlier scope for the energies of the discontented. For, whether peaceful or warlike counsels prevail, there is a bill to be paid. How Sir Cornewall Lewis intends to pay it remains to be seen (may we hope, *par parenthèse*, that all idea of getting it out of Russia, in the same way as we did out of China, has not been abandoned—the silver rouble will be as welcome in Threadneedle-street as the Sycee silver); but he has a more formidable task before him than any Chancellor of the Exchequer who has preceded him for many a day. We are disposed to think that, though his Budget will be a good deal criticised, it will not be torn to pieces, for reasons which have less to do with its own merits than with the situation of those who, were it destroyed, might have to concoct another. We shall not be surprised to see the Budget—with the loan, to which all people seem to have made up their minds—disposed of with comparative ease.

Then, however, will come more serious business. It is not for nothing that the great Conservative party has been drawing together, appealing to traditions of our past military glory, fighting all election battles, obtaining what individual popularity was to be got at, and generally consolidating itself. Its leaders have not yet proclaimed war; but Russia, moving down upon the Pruth, gave not more significant intimation of her intention than the recent policy of the Opposition has afforded. The party is too strong to remain inactive, though not as yet strong enough to act independently. The incidents of the next few weeks may settle its position for a long period to come. Brilliant success in the Crimea, or an honourable and satisfactory treaty at Vienna, and the Opposition will have little chance of success in a hostile demonstration, or an appeal to the country. But reverses or long inaction at Sebastopol, and, still more, an unworthy and patched-up peace, and the road to office may be open to those who are eager to rush upon it. We will not so far wrong any class of statesmen as to impute to them a desire that the events at Vienna or in the Crimea may furnish them with political capital; but it is manifest that a large party is watching with no friendly eye the proceedings directed by Lord Palmerston's Government.

This state of things is, of course, perfectly well known to the Liberal party as to the Opposition. Already we have rumours that the Government contemplates measures, at home and abroad, which are designed to prevent the alienation of national confidence, and which are to afford rallying cries to the friends of the Cabinet. Lord John Russell may return either as a triumphant negotiator, or as one who has boldly asserted in Congress the sentiments he expressed in Parliament; another alternative may bring him home as the unpopular arranger of an unworthy peace—in which case it will be still more necessary that he should have something in store for the redemption of his character. It is said that the Representation of the People has not ceased to occupy his attention, and that his chief now approves his views. Then it is manifest that, whether peace or war is to occupy Europe, a bold course of action in regard to certain nationalities—one which should be at once an effort in the cause of liberty and a military operation of great advantage—would be a *coup de maître* on the part of an English Minister. Movements with which the name of Poland is connected are somewhat freely discussed in high places. Whether at present the two ideas in question are merely promulgated for temporary purposes, to be laid aside should they not be needed, we will not now discuss. It is sufficient for our purpose that such things are "ventilated," for they are evidence that the lull produced by the crisis is not expected long to survive the events that have, for the hour, paralysed party strife.

SINCE August 3, 1854, the minimum rate of discount at the Bank of England has been 5 per cent, but last week it was lowered to 4½—a sign of money becoming more abundant and cheaper. Between January 20th, when the bullion in the Bank was £12,162,495, and the 31st March, when it was £15,205,527, it has increased £3,043,032. Within the same period the reserve, or cash, in the Bank, which it is ready and willing to lend, has increased from £6,116,825 to £9,717,217, or £3,600,392. But the money out of the Bank, or in the hands of individuals, is also abundant, or the bill-discounters have so much to lend, that in Lombard-street bills are discounted at lower terms than 4½ per cent, and the Bank gets no bills, or is unable to lend money at its present terms. After a long period, from the beginning of 1852 to the autumn of 1854, of increasing and successful trade, a period of comparative stagnation and less successful trade has arrived. The chief causes of the rapid increase subsequent to 1851 were the gold discoveries in California, which gave a great extension to enterprise in the United States, and the gold discoveries in Australia, which in like manner affected our business. But towards the close of 1854 it was fully ascertained that the previous progress had been more rapid than sound; that the markets of California and Australia were overdone; that enterprise in the States had in many cases had a fraudulent basis; and bankruptcies became numerous in our colony, at home, and in the States. In the last six months the imports into the States have fallen off a full fourth, which has affected our manufactures; while the trade with Australia has not only fallen off—it has latterly brought home insufficient returns. At present commercial enterprise in both countries is very much curtailed; but much more, be it particularly remembered, in the States, which have had no war, than in our country; and in both countries money is now, in consequence of the diminution of commercial enterprise, comparatively abundant and cheap. A New York paper of the 24th says "the abundance of money is the inevitable result of the contraction of business, and of the effort to get out of debt; while there was, till the summer of 1854, only a desire to increase business and get into debt." If the present condition of trade, therefore, be less showy and dazzling than at the beginning of last year, it is more sound both at home and in the States. The reduction in the rate of discount will at least relieve business of one difficulty, if it give business no new impulse; but the probability is, that the increasing abundance of money seeking employment will stimulate enterprise; and the year 1855, as it advances, will be more prosperous than was the close of 1854.

THE Duke de Grammont, French Minister at Turin, is about to proceed to Rome, and offer his good offices in the differences which have arisen between the Holy See and Piedmont.

#### THE COURT.

The most active preparations are in progress for the reception of their Imperial Majesties the Emperor and Empress of the French, who are expected to arrive at Windsor Castle on Monday next. On Tuesday a grand dinner and evening party will take place at the Castle; and on Wednesday, it is understood, the Emperor will be invested with the Insignia of the Order of the Garter. Thursday is to be devoted to a visit to the Crystal Palace; and on one of the succeeding days of the week the Emperor and Empress will honour the city of London with their presence at the Guildhall; the visit closing on Saturday.

The incidents of the week just closed have necessarily been few and unimportant.

On Saturday last her Majesty and her Serene Highness the Prince of Leiningen, with the Princess Helena and Prince Arthur, drove out in an open carriage. His Royal Highness Prince Albert accompanied her Majesty on horseback.

On Sunday the Queen and Prince, the four elder Royal children, and the Prince of Leiningen, the Ladies and Gentlemen of the Court, and the domestic household, attended Divine service in the private chapel of the Castle. The Hon. and Very Rev. the Dean of Windsor performed the service, and administered the Holy Communion.

On Monday the Queen and Prince, accompanied by the Prince of Leiningen, walked in the Home-park. The four elder members of the Royal family rode on horseback. The younger Royal children took their accustomed exercise. In the afternoon the Queen and the Prince of Leiningen drove out in a carriage. The Prince Consort accompanied on horseback.

On Tuesday there was no addition to the Royal dinner-party.

On Wednesday the Queen and Prince, accompanied by the Prince of Leiningen, walked in the Home-park. Her Majesty afterwards rode in the riding house, attended by the Hon. Flora Macdonald.

On Thursday the Prince Consort presided at a meeting of the Commissioners of the Patriotic Fund, at the New Palace of Westminster.

The Viscountess Canning has succeeded the Duchess of Atholl as the Lady in Waiting to her Majesty. Lord Rivers and General Sir Edward Bowater have succeeded Earl Somers and the Hon. Mortimer Sackville West as Lord and Groom in Waiting.

His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge leaves London on Monday for Windsor Castle, where he will remain a guest of her Majesty until Thursday next.

The marriage of the Earl of Lichfield and the Lady Harriet Hamilton, eldest daughter of the Marquis and Marchioness of Abercorn, took place at Brocket-hall, Herts, on Tuesday last.

The Countess of Ashburnham gave birth to a son on Easter Sunday, at Ashburnham-place, Sussex.

The Hon. Mrs. Strange Jocelyn left London, last week, for Paris, en route for the Crimea, to join her husband.

#### THE APPROACHING VISIT OF THE EMPEROR AND EMPRESS OF THE FRENCH.

It is understood that their Imperial Majesties the Emperor and Empress of the French will arrive at Windsor, by the Great Western Railway, at six o'clock on Monday evening. The august visitors will be received by a guard of honour, composed of the 94th Regiment of the Line, now quartered at the Sheet-street Barracks, a company of the Foot Guards, from the Tower, and by a detachment from the Rifle Brigade. The Mayor of Windsor (John Clode, Esq.) will have the honour of receiving the illustrious visitors on their arrival at the terminus in the Royal borough.

The Castle officials will be in attendance to conduct the Emperor and Empress to her Majesty's waiting-room, which is beautifully fitted up in the Arabesque style; and afterwards to the magnificent apartments prepared for them at the Castle. On emerging from the Windsor Railway Station, their Imperial Majesties will pass through a triumphal arch erected at the junction between Thames-street and High-street. There will also be another triumphal arch erected in Castle-street under which the Royal carriages will pass. The Castle-green, immediately beneath the Castle walls, opposite to the establishment of Mr. Layton, confectioner to the Queen, will be furnished with thousands of seats, which will extend as far as Henry VIII.'s Gate, for the accommodation of the public-tickets being previously granted by the committee.

On the arrival of the Emperor and Empress at the Castle they will be received at the grand entrance by her Majesty the Queen, his Royal Highness the Prince Consort, and by the brilliant circle of visitors invited to do due honour to the auspicious occasion.

On Tuesday next the Mayor and Corporation of Windsor, in their official robes, will present an address of congratulation to the Emperor Napoleon III., and afterwards participate in a public dinner of the inhabitants, to be given at the Town-hall.

There will be state dinners at the Castle on every evening after the Emperor's arrival; and, subsequent to the investiture of his Imperial Majesty with the Order of the Garter, on Wednesday, a magnificent banquet will be given, at which many of the nobility and gentry will be present. There will be a review of the whole of the Household troops. The 2nd Life Guards are at present in garrison, but the 1st Life Guards and the Royal Horse Guards (Blue) are expected next Monday, and will be billeted for two or three days on the inhabitants.

The Hon. and Very Rev. the Dean of Windsor, who is brother to Lord Cowley, the British Ambassador at Paris, has placed his residence in the Cloisters at the service of a portion of the Emperor's suite, and great preparations are in progress to redecorate the ancient mansion. The preparations at the Castle are by no means complete, no less than 300 workmen being still engaged.

It is said that the six days to which their Majesties' visit will extend will be divided between Windsor Castle and Buckingham Palace; that the Queen will herself conduct the illustrious visitors to an inspection of the Crystal Palace, and to a performance at the Italian Opera; and that her Majesty will give either a State concert or ball at Buckingham Palace during the short stay of the Emperor and Empress.

His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge and a brilliant party will be present at Windsor Castle as the guests of her Most Gracious Majesty.

The Emperor Napoleon is said to have intimated to the Lord Mayor, through official channels, his desire and that of the Empress to pay a personal visit to the City. The visit of their Imperial Majesties to the Crystal Palace will probably take place on Thursday, the 19th. The public will be excluded from the building itself while they are making their inspection; but in their progress they will present themselves on the balcony to the people assembled in the gardens. Season ticket-holders will be admitted to the interior during luncheon in the Queen's apartments, and her Majesty and her august visitors will then descend down the entire length of the Palace to the place of exit behind the Pompeian Court.

By these arrangements the inhabitants of the metropolis and the public at large will have ample opportunities afforded them for evincing the cordial satisfaction with which they hail the presence of the Emperor and Empress of the French upon English soil.

#### CHURCH, UNIVERSITIES, &c.

PREFERMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS.—*Rectories*: The Rev. J. M. Lee to Botley, near Bishop's Waltham, Hampshire; Rev. M. Farrell to Woughton-on-the-Green, near Fenny Stratford; Hon. and Rev. J. Gifford to Wedworth, near Honiton, Devonshire; Rev. S. Thackwell to Little Birch, Herefordshire; Rev. J. T. Johnson to Beccles, Suffolk; Rev. H. P. Cooke to Nuneham Courtenay, Oxfordshire; Rev. W. Ewing to North Pakenham, near Swaffham; Rev. G. Conacher to Wattenfield, near Bury St. Edmunds; Rev. H. C. Pigott to Wyke Regis, near Weymouth; Rev. R. H. Scott to Woolton, Isle of Wight; Rev. J. M. Luke to Guestling, Sussex; Rev. S. R. Carter to Brantham, Suffolk. *Vicarages*: The Rev. J. Fitzgerald to Borden, near Sittingbourne; Rev. J. Atkins to Ombersley, near Droitwich. *Incumbency*: The Rev. Symonds to Baldin, near Truro.

THE LORDS OF THE ADMIRALTY have notified to the Rev. J. C. Conolly, Chaplain of the Dockyard, Woolwich, that they have voted £300 for the improvement of the Dockyard Chapel, and to repair the damage done on the west side when the *Perseverance* fell upon it.

TESTIMONIAL.—A deputation from the poor of St. Matthews's district, Westminster, have presented the Rev. Alfred Jones, Chaplain of Aske's Hospital, Hoxton, with a silver cup, in testimony of his ministry among them during ten years.

THE MONUMENT TO THE LATE DEAN OF WELLS, described in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS of March 31, was designed by Mr. S. S. Teulon, architect.

GRAND MILITARY BALL AT EDINBURGH.—The pavilion engraved in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS of last week was from a daguerreotype taken by M. Popowitz.

A COMMITTEE, composed of members of the Church Protestant Defence Society, Evangelical Alliance, National Club, Protestant Alliance, &c., have convened an "aggregate meeting of Protestants" on the subject of Maynooth, on Tuesday next, at the Freemasons'-hall.

## METROPOLITAN NEWS.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS  
TAKEN DURING THE WEEK ENDING THURSDAY, APRIL 12.

Month and Day.	Corrected Reading of Barom. at 9 A.M.	Thermometer.		Mean Tempera- ture of Day.	Departure of Tem- perature from Average.	Degree of Humid- ity.	Direction of Wind.	Rain In Inches.
		Highest Reading.	Lowest Reading.					
Apr. 6	30.098	64°5	36°0	48°7	+ 4°3	84	W.S.W.	0.00
7	30.113	57°7	45°3	50°6	+ 6°1	74	W.N.W.	0.00
8	30.048	52°0	36°0	44°0	- 0°7	79	N.	0.01
9	29.765	56°5	39°9	47°7	+ 2°9	87	S.W.	0.00
10	29.236	52°9	41°7	46°1	+ 1°1	71	N.W.	0.05
11	29.451	56°6	42°1	46°9	+ 1°8	78	N.N.W.	0.02
12	29.516	62°0	44°0	50°9	+ 5°6	69	S.W.	0.00

NOTE.—The sign + denotes above the average, and the sign — below the average. The numbers in the seventh column are calculated on the supposition that the saturation of the air is represented by 100.

The reading of the barometer decreased from 30.10 inches at the beginning of the week, to 30.04 inches by the afternoon of the 6th; increased to 30.11 inches by the 7th; decreased to 29.22 inches by the 10th; and increased to 29.52 inches by the end of the week. The mean for the week, at the height of 82 feet above the level of the sea, was 29.724 inches.

The mean temperature of the week was 47°80—being 3° above the average of the corresponding week during thirty-eight years.

The range of temperature during the week was 28°0, being the difference between the lowest reading on the 6th and 8th, and the highest on the 6th.

The mean daily range of temperature during the week was 16°7. The least was 11°0 on the 10th, and the greatest 28°0 on the 6th.

The weather on the first day of this week was very fine; and, with the exception of the 8th, the temperature has been somewhat above its average. A high wind was blowing almost continuously from the 8th to the 11th. The weather has been unsettled and unseasonable. Rain to a small amount only has fallen.

Lewisham, April 13, 1855.

JAMES GLAISHER.

HEALTH OF LONDON.—Within the week ending April 7, the births of 1517 were entered in the registrars' books of the metropolitan district; 828 were boys, and 689 were girls. The average number in the fourteenth week of the year are 760 males and 734 females. The deaths of 1226 persons were registered within the same time, being less than the corrected average for the week by 23; thus exhibiting satisfactory evidence of an improved state of public health, the mortality week to week for a long time having been excessive. In the thirteen weeks ending 31st March, 19,627 deaths were registered, a number exceeding the average by 4000 nearly—chiefly persons in advanced age, weakly children, the sufferers from chronic diseases, and others who, when the winter set in, were in good health, and whose deaths were caused by the severe weather, which extended from January 10 to the end of the quarter. Congestion and inflammation of the lungs were the most prevalent fatal diseases.

BANK OF ENGLAND.—At a general Court of Directors, held on Tuesday, Mr. T. M. Wiegulian was elected Governor, and Mr. S. Neave Deputy-Governor, for the ensuing year.

MICROSCOPICAL SOIREE AT APOTHECARIES' HALL.—On Wednesday evening the Society of Apothecaries gave their second soiree, in their fine old Hall. The assembly was presided over by the master, N. B. Ward, Esq., F.R.S.; and the company, numbering between 600 and 700 guests, included the leading microscopists of the day. The walls were decorated with superb drawings, diagrams, and paintings from the most celebrated collections; and upon the tables were ranged upwards of 150 microscopes, exhibiting many of the actual organisms whose representations were suspended above them. We reserve the details of this very interesting meeting until next week, when we shall engrave the scene. On Thursday was held in the hall a morning lounge of the ladies of the philosophers, with a concourse of beauty, rank, and fashion.

ROYAL WESTMINSTER OPHTHALMIC HOSPITAL, CHARING-CROSS.—At a quarterly meeting of the Governors of this charity, held on Thursday, the 5th inst., the secretary reported that 1195 poor persons had applied to be relieved as out-patients for the quarter ending March 31; that 47 persons had been admitted as in-patients during the same period, and 39 discharged. Amongst other operations, 11 for cataract had been successfully performed during the last month. The Governors still have to regret the inadequate state of the funds placed at their disposal to meet the increasing demands for relief.

TRIAL AND ACQUITTAL OF MRS. RAMSBOTHAM.—The trial of Mrs. Ramsbotham for two distinct larcenies said to have been committed by her—two sleeves on the 15th of March, and four handkerchiefs on the 27th of March—from the shop of Mr. J. W. Moule, of Baker-street, took place at the Middlesex Sessions on Wednesday. Mr. Bodkin was counsel for the prosecution. Mr. Ballantine and Mr. Parry were for the prisoner. The court was crowded in every part, a large number of ladies being present. The prisoner pleaded "Not Guilty," to both counts of the indictment. A number of witnesses were called, who stated that they saw Mrs. Ramsbotham take the articles in question. Mr. Ballantine, in addressing the jury on behalf of the prisoner, contended that a trap had been laid for her, and she had fallen into it. "She was about to go away when a basket of handkerchiefs was put forward to excite her morbid imagination, and tempt her to the commission of crime." No attempt was made to deny the facts of the case, but a number of witnesses to character were called on the part of the prisoner. The Judge then summed up the case, and the jury retired about half-past four to consider their verdict. After three hours' consideration they were unable to agree. A consultation therefore took place between Mr. Bodkin and the counsel for the prisoner, the result of which was that they agreed to suggest to the Court that the jury should be discharged without giving a verdict, which was accordingly done.

DANGEROUS EXPLOSION OF GUNPOWDER.—On Saturday last an explosion of gunpowder took place in the oil, colour, and Italian warehouse occupied by Mr. William Bennett, 25, James-street, Covent-garden, by which it is feared that three if not four children, members of the same family, will perish. It appears that Mr. Bennett sent one of his sons, aged about twelve years, to the top of the house, to fill a quarter-pound canister with gunpowder. Having done so, he repaired to the third-floor back, in which the other children were playing. In order to amuse them, he began to sprinkle the powder upon the fire, when the whole contents of the canister became ignited, and exploded, blowing the windows out, forcing the ceiling down, and setting fire to the children's clothes. On the neighbours rushing in to render assistance, the four children were found to be so dreadfully injured, that it was deemed advisable to remove them to Charing-cross Hospital, which was accordingly done.

THERE will be a meeting of the choirs of St. Paul's, Westminster Abbey, Canterbury, Cambridge, Oxford, Windsor, and the gentlemen of her Majesty's Chapel Royal, at Eton, on Tuesday next, for the purpose of performing several anthems of the great composers of our cathedral music. The meeting is for the benefit of the Choir Benevolent Fund.

PRIZE ESSAY.—Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton's gold medal, for the best essay, by any student of the University of Edinburgh matriculated in 1853-54 or 1854-55, "On the Influence of the Mind over the Body in Causing and Curing Morbid and Anomalous Conditions," has just been adjudged by the Senatus Academicus. The successful competitor is John Glen, M.A., student of medicine; son, we believe, of the late Rev. Dr. Glen, for many years missionary in Persia.

SOUTH WALES IRON WORKS.—In consequence of the depressed state of the iron trade, and the high rate of wages which have for a length of time past been received by the workmen, the ironmasters of South Wales have determined to reduce the wages of their men to the extent of 10 per cent.

HOLY RUSSIA.—Private letters from St. Petersburg, received by mercantile houses, state confidently that the fanatical war party has completely got the upper hand, and that Alexander II.'s throne would not be worth a week's purchase if he were to attempt to thwart the current of national feeling. The rich nobles, who in their hearts long for peace, and will be the greatest sufferers by the war, are compelled to swell the popular cry. They offer large contributions, in the hope of averting a sweeping *ad valorem* property-tax, amounting to confiscation.

Precious Freight.—On Thursday week there were in the Southampton Docks gold and silver to the amount of £600,000, which had arrived in the West India steamer *Type*, and the Alexandrian steamer *Euxine*. Nearly twenty carriages were required to convey it to London. The principal portion of the specie was silver. About £8000 worth of silver weighs a ton; each rail-way carriage conveys about four tons weight.

EXPEDITION TO THE INTERIOR OF SOUTH AFRICA.—(From a Correspondent)—I noticed in your paper of the 7th a paragraph respecting my brother Frederick's travels in South Africa, and his present expedition, in company with Mr. Anderson, to the Great Lake in Ngami. Mr. Anderson (not Mr. Anderson), a friend of my brother, is an experienced traveller in that region, and is at present in London preparing to give the public some account of his travels and adventures in Africa, and which, I have no doubt, will be faithful representations of what he has seen and done. My father, whom you designate as "Assistant-Commissioner on the frontier of the Cape Colony," was Deputy-Commissioner-General there for some time; but latterly at Cape Town, and has now retired from the service. My brother has a further object in his present expedition—that of exploring the copper-ore region on the western coast. He is a young traveller for the experience he has had, being now twenty-six years of age.—W. G. GREEN, Chillingham Barns, Northumberland.

## TOWN AND TABLE TALK ON LITERATURE, ART, &amp;c.

THERE is every prospect of a good Exhibition of pictures at the Royal Academy. Rumour is busy in praise of many contributions, and we can confirm what is generally said by our own observation.

Sunday last and the two following days were dedicated by amateurs, as other first days in April have long been dedicated, to a round of visits to the studios of our principal artists. This visiting is no light work. Our artists no longer congregate in Berners-street and Newman-street: some are at Hampstead, some at Kensington, some at Bayswater, and some in the hidden and difficult recesses of St. John's wood. To visit them all, and go through with proper politeness the requisite ceremony of compliment and sight-seeing, is simply impossible; but much may be done by dogged determination to see what is to be seen, and the result will always be found more than sufficient for the time dedicated, and the distances that have been accomplished.

We have no hesitation in saying ditto to rumour's assertion, that Mr. Roberts's single contribution will be one of the largest and most attractive pictures in the collection. It is in every respect a noble work of art, embracing a panorama-like view of ancient and modern Rome, rendered in a most masterly manner, and recalling the ages of Augustus and Leo most unmistakably to the spectator. This city of cities is represented by our English Canaletti under the warm effects of a setting sun: a red hue, almost of melancholy (and therefore not inappropriate), pervades the whole composition. The Tiber is seen winding its way as if mindful that the great city it once watered has seen not only its decline but its fall, and that a lazy course to the sea is becoming the dignity of its former importance. Mr. Roberts has very seldom shown a more poetic sense of the sublime in art than in this picture. While one stands before it it is impossible not to rush into poetry. Of Roberts's "Rome" it may be safely said that the execution will amply satisfy the expectation it must necessarily awaken.

Mr. Stanfield's large picture will gratify expectation in a similar degree. The subject is "The Fall of St. Sebastian" (we had nearly written Sebastopol), and the picture itself is painted as a companion to the "Gibraltar" and "Man-of-War Conveying the Dead Body of Nelson"—which no lover of true art is likely to forget. The "St. Sebastian" is a commission, it is said, from Sir Morton Peto.

Rumour is not wrong in asserting that Mr. MacLise will contribute a very fine picture to the same Exhibition. He has chosen his subject from Shakespeare—from "As You Like It—the wrestling scene between Orlando and Charles. With great good judgment Mr. MacLise has avoided taking the actual encounter of strength. He has made it more of an intellectual fight; and has admirably contrasted the muscular *Charles* with the mental *Orlando*. Nor is *Charles* too much of a Broughton or Dutch Sam; he is more of a pocket Hercules. Very exquisite indeed is that statuette group of *Rosalind* and *Celia*. What exquisite faces!—what happy realisations of the female character as rendered by Shakespeare! Mr. MacLise has told his story on an English lawn in front of a mediæval mansion, that is said to be an accurate copy of a stately residence near Maidstone belonging to Mr. Betts. The picture, we believe, was painted for Mrs. Betts, the sister of Sir Morton Peto, and is one of a series of commissions from the same lady to our ablest artists. These railway monarchs have the good sense to commission good things. Why does not Mr. Brassey copy the excellent example of his partners?

To the same Exhibition Sir Edwin Landseer is to send only one picture. We have not heard its name, but it is safely described as very fine, with dogs and the usual Landseer addenda.

The newly-elected Royal Academician (Mr. E. M. Ward), with the customary coyness of a new member, has nothing to send. But Mr. Ward has been busy at the new Houses of Parliament; and, though the Exhibition will suffer from his absence, we must impute his not sending to a better reason than the custom of the Academy.

Mr. Egg, too long an absentee, will atone, and ably, for the absence of Mr. Ward. He has three pictures in all—and two are in one frame. His subjects are from Tom Moore, and from the life and death of the second Duke of Buckingham, of the Villiers family. The Moore is a prison scene, and represents a patriot rebel in the arms of his faithful wife. The figures are erect, and the expression on the woman's face is wonderfully fine. Her eyes beam with hope—admirably supported by a gleam of sunshine which passes across the composition, and speaks of happier scenes to come, as it reflects its light on the prison mattress and the prison fare. The twin picture is more ambitious. In the composition, to the left the Duke is seen:

Gallant and gay in Cliefden's proud alcove,  
The bower of wanton Shrewsbury and love.

It is a supper-scene, and the toast of the evening is being drunk by the assembled guests, including King Charles II. himself. The moon looks in upon the scene of revelry. The Duke is in the centre, in white satin; the King is in dark blue. The whole picture is true to the times and to the life of the versatile Duke. Not less true to the death of the Duke is the second picture. We have here the worst inn's worst room; the scene, in short, as rendered immortal by Pope, in his poem "On the Use of Riches." What a contrast to the companion picture is this death-bed scene! This lord of useless thousands, this terror of wits, this envy of Whitehall—

Bold in the lists and graceful in the dance—

this man on whom all eyes naturally turned as soon as he entered a room, so easy was his bearing—is here nothing more than food for the worms. The contrast is solemn and suggestive.

The admirers of Mr. Frith—and he has a large and increasing circle—must be content with seeing him this year on a small scale, though as charming and true to nature as ever. One little bit—an illustration for a song by Moore (of course a tale of love)—is exquisitely beautiful.

In that great stronghold of our school—landscape painting—we are to have some new and clever candidates for fame; but Mr. Creswick, from what we have seen and hear, will more than maintain his superiority in that walk of art with which his name is inseparably connected. When we are told that a collector possesses "a Creswick" we know at once that he has a good picture, and one that is true to nature and English scenery.

The Associates send strongly. Hook and Pickersgill will be found to excel in figure-pieces. Our English Vandervelde (Mr. E. W. Cooke) has a winter piece—a Mill on Whittlesea Mere—that will more than sustain his well-earned reputation. Mr. Millais is in great force. His subject from common life—a Fireman Rescuing a Family from the Flames—treated with his fine feeling for the true pathos and sublime of human life. Here, then, is promise. We shall have, however, to regret the absence of Mr. Frost, whose delicate creations are not easily supplied elsewhere.

Favourite contributors without the pale of the Academy will be seen to advantage. Mr. Ansdel sends a pair of gamekeepers—an English gamekeeper and a Scottish gamekeeper; the characteristics of both countries admirably depicted in the faces of the men, in the scenery around them, and the dead game about them. Mr. Solomon has a Boulogne sea-shore scene, in which sickness and health, low life and high life, are most strikingly and touchingly contrasted. Mr. Glasse contributes a Prairie picture. The first Monday in May, we may safely assert, is more than likely to supply a treat to the lovers of art.

In literature we hear of nothing of greater moment than the forthcoming "Life of Washington," by Washington Irving. The work is printed, and ready for delivery. But who is the London publisher? In the present uncertain state of the law no one is willing to venture his money in purchasing what anybody may reprint. As the law stands, no publisher is fool enough to open an account with an American book.

It is not worth his trouble. The hardship of Mr. Irving's case may perhaps elicit a larger sympathy with the pockets of English authors than our American brethren have been in the habit of exhibiting. If this is so, we may have, before very long, a reciprocity of copyright, by which authors and readers will both gain.

Our contemporaries are giving circulation to a stupid paragraph respecting "a new Royal residence," which her Majesty, it is said, is about to purchase and inhabit. Denbies, near Dorking, is alleged to be the place, and Sir William Cubitt is the person whose house her Majesty has pleased to desire. Now it so happens that Denbies belongs to Mr. Thomas Cubitt, no relation whatever of Sir William; more than this, there is no truth whatever in the story.

The admirers of Mr. Martin's genius should make a point of visiting the three last efforts of his pencil, "The Last Judgment," "The Great Day of Wrath," and "The Plains of Heaven." They have never been properly seen in London, but are now on view and well hung at No. 52, Threadneedle-street.

## THE CRISIS OF THE VIENNA CONFERENCE.

It is, perhaps, a singular coincidence that we shall receive the intelligence of the final determination of the Czar during the visit to England of the Emperor of the French. The certainty of our having to wage together a great European war may be announced, perhaps, at the very moment that our gracious Queen is investing the Emperor Napoleon with the insignia of the highest honour she has to bestow; or the news of peace might be proclaimed as Victoria and her Imperial ally pace the transept of Sydenham, surrounded by the arts and works of peace.

It is now certain that the instructions of Prince Gortschakoff and of M. Titoff cannot reach Vienna before the 15th, and may not arrive there till, perhaps, the 20th. The most probable date is, perhaps, the 17th or 18th; until which day public anxiety must postpone its impatience.

Whatever Conferences may be held previously to that date will have reference to matters of comparatively minor importance.

We are glad to be able to state that the professions of the Court of Vienna are most satisfactory to the Western Powers; that, if peace be not now attained, our ally is prepared to use his utmost efforts in war to obtain the object of our alliance.

The King of Prussia, whose Russian tendencies were but the other day pushing him strongly to ally himself with the Czar, has, as we predicted, found his heart fail him; and we believe we are correct in asserting that he has written a letter to the Emperor of Russia urging him to send Count Nesselrode in person to make peace if possible; and warning him that, if the attainment of peace should be prevented by unnecessary obstacles set up by the Cabinet of St. Petersburg, then all Germany would, no doubt, side with Austria and the Western Powers; and that Prussia, deserted by her German friends, would find herself in an extremely difficult position.

It is thought by some that this step on the part of Prussia may have some influence at St. Petersburg; but we confess we think that, if the weighty reasons that Russia has for yielding to our terms fail to induce to that course, the selfish arguments of the Court of Berlin will hardly be likely to determine Russia to sacrifice what she considers her truest interests to those of her valued neighbour.

If the King of Prussia really desired that his nephew should accept our terms, he would join our alliance. This would argue genuine approval and genuine determination; but, so long as he holds aloof from either party, he is only in the position of a man who, from fear, shrinks from adopting any definite line of policy. We do not believe that he will ever join Russia; we consider that we have material guarantees for that. Whether, however, he will join us till his aid is worthless, and his power nil, is more than we can pretend to say.

Since the proclamations and speeches of the Emperor, and the circular note of Count Nesselrode, we have no indications of any



TOP LINE:  
NEPTUNE. CALCUTTA. CRESSY. DUKE OF WELLINGTON. CESAR. EDINBURGH. COLOSSUS. BLEHEIM. POWERFUL, AT ANCHOR.  
2ND LINE: ST. GEORGE. ROYAL GEORGE. MAJESTY. EXMOUTH. NILE. AZAZ. HOOTON. JAMES WATT.  
3RD LINE: CENTAUR. VULCAN. GOONOG. DRIVE. BULLDOG. GLYNN. BASILISK.

DEPARTURE OF THE BALTIC FLEET FROM SPITHEAD.—(SEE PAGE 353.)

## THE SILENT MEMBER.—(No. XII.)

It has become a rather general belief that our recent disasters in the Crimea are attributable in a great degree to the aristocratic element which has been allowed to enter too largely into the composition of the heads of our Army, as well as into the principal offices of Government. Lord Palmerston, as a Premier belonging to the aristocracy, has been anxious to throw the blame from the shoulders of his "order;" and, in doing so, he rather unceremoniously attempted to cast the burden, with all the odium attaching to it, on to the unfortunate body of the Commissariat. The Premier argued that the department in question had been the weak point in the conduct of the war; and he assumed that, as the Commissariat is not made up of the materials objected to as aristocratic, it must be inferred that the aristocratic composition of our public service has not been the cause of our Crimean failures. It might naturally be expected that the department thus attacked by the Prime Minister would remonstrate against the treatment it has received; but it will surprise many people to hear the grounds on which the Commissariat complains of the alleged injustice that has been done to it. Passing over lightly the charges of incapacity, the Commissariat dwells with much sensibility on that part of the accusation which ranks the members of the department among the "common fellows," who have no aristocratic or gentle blood in their veins. It would, perhaps, have been a hopeless task to lay claim to much credit for ability; but the Commissariat had better have let the charge pass altogether unnoticed than have exhibited a maudlin sensitiveness to the sneers of Lord Palmerston on the class to which the body is presumed to belong. Nobody cares to know anything at all about the quality of the blood running in the veins of the whole of the Commissariat; whose members, instead of boasting of their own blood, had better render an account of that which has been sacrificed by their incapacity and neglect.

It is hardly a time to boast of aristocratic connection, when society is ringing with tales of scandal in which a member of a very aristocratic family has played a most disreputable part. Since all the daily papers have openly named the Hon. Francis Villiers—a son of the Earl and Countess of Jersey—it is unnecessary for the Silent Member to observe a solitary silence, as to the party against whom "painful rumours"—as they are always called when one of the upper circles has disgraced himself—have been for some time current. Without wishing to add to the sufferings of this very aristocratic family, one may legitimately ask whether such evils as the one that has lately happened are not sometimes aggravated by that cold exclusiveness which shuts out sympathy, and causes many to exult over the pride that has met a fall? Many will remember the slavish sycophancy which some years ago expressed its deep condolence with the distress of this very family at the calamity that had fallen upon it by the alliance of one of its daughters to a person of the middle class. "Society" was shocked at the contamination; and all the parasites of aristocracy lamented the *mesalliance* which is understood to have brought happiness to the two parties immediately concerned, though the "honour of the family" is said to have never recovered the wound it then sustained. Let what has occurred be a warning to the nominally noble; that there are virtues out of their own class; and that, unless some of these virtues are from time to time imported into it, the honour of a family may either die away, or be exposed to those rude shocks, one of which has done more violence to the fame of the house of Jersey than the marriage of all its single members at once into the middle classes would have inflicted.

An attempt has been made to stop the gap at the Colonial-office by throwing into it a certain Ball, who, though not without ability, which he has from time to time displayed in the House of Commons, is wholly without experience in Colonial affairs. Mr. Ball goes to his new appointment, at all events, without prejudice, for it is impossible he can have formed a partial judgment upon that of which he knows nothing. The colonists at all events cannot complain of his views being one-sided, for he can have no views, as yet, of that which he has never seen. The news to be sent out to the expectant Colonies will, however, be more welcome than the last intelligence, which could only have told them that there was nobody at home at the Colonial-office; whereas now they may be assured that an apprentice has been taken into the business, who, when the master comes back from Vienna, will begin to learn his work.

The condition of our own Administration in nearly all its departments brings very naturally to one's mind the great American party of Know-nothings, which seems to be making rapid progress, while our Know-nothings have a tendency rather to retrograde than to advance. In America, however, the Know-nothings are only ignorant of every thing which impedes the welfare of their own country; while our Know-nothings seem to know everything, or at least to be able to talk about everything, except the duty they have to perform. Our Know-nothings should rather be called Know-nobodies; for, while inefficient themselves, they seem to know nobody who can help them, and they systematically ignore everybody but the nobodies who belong to their own privileged class.

Everybody is beginning to talk of the visit of the French Emperor, with his Empress—an incident that some two years ago the boldest prophet would not have ventured to predict. Popular feeling has changed wonderfully in this country towards the illustrious man who has used with admirable wisdom and good faith towards us the power which the friends of constitutional government would have desired to see attained in a different manner from that in which it came into the hands of Louis Napoleon. It is not, however, for us to question the will of the French nation, and we may, at all events, compliment our ally on having chosen for her ruler the most remarkable man of the present age, and the only Sovereign of France under whom a cordial alliance with England has ever been accomplished. In the choice of his Empress he gave a blow at that exclusiveness which often renders Royal marriages the source of unhappiness to Sovereigns themselves, and of misfortunes to the people they govern. Napoleon III. may be regarded as, in one sense, the embodiment of the principle of progress, for he is the representative of no ancient or noble family, and he owes his position on the throne of France less, after all, to his being the heir of the first Napoleon, than to his own invincible energy. His name, no doubt, gave him the opportunity; but, had he not possessed some of the genius which raised the first Napoleon to his high position, that opportunity would have been unavailing. Whatever sentiments may have been formerly entertained towards him, the fact of his being a guest of our Sovereign, and the ruler of a great nation in friendly alliance with ourselves, should ensure him a respectful and cordial, if not an enthusiastic, greeting. He has, at all events, shown his own generous confidence in us, by coming among us, notwithstanding all the rather hard things we have from time to time said about him; and he has set the example of putting in practice that oblivion of the past which we ought now to reciprocate.

**AMERICAN ENTERPRISE.**—Cornelius Vanderbilt, "the commercial king of America," who has always strenuously maintained that the American merchants could sustain ocean steamers at a profit without aid from the Government, is putting his theory into practice. On the 21st of April his steamer *North Star* sails for Havre, the pioneer of the new line of packets which he is establishing between New York and France. On the 3rd of next month he launches the *Ariel*, which is to follow the *North Star* in May; while in June the third ship of the line gets under way. These are all first-class steamers, and, with the enormous wealth and irrepressible energy of Mr. Vanderbilt, a great experiment will be made. This gives us now ten American steamers plying regularly between New York and Europe.

**A PROPOSITION** has been made to the French Government by M. Petros Demetraekos, a Greek gentleman residing in Paris, to raise a corps of from 500 to 1000 Spartans, his countrymen, to fight against the Russians. The proposition has been submitted to the Emperor, who decided that there was no occasion for following it out.

## OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

## THE DOWAGER MARCHIONESS OF DOWNSHIRE.

THE death of this respected lady occurred, after a short illness, at Hillsborough, county Down. The event has cast a deep gloom over the neighbourhood in which she resided.

The Marchioness was born May 30, 1790, the eldest daughter and coheiress of Other-Hickman, fifth Earl of Plymouth, by Sarah, his wife, daughter and coheiress of Andrew, last Lord Archer. Her Ladyship married, October 25, 1811, Arthur Blundell-Sandys-Trumbull, third Marquis of Downshire; and by him, who died April 12, 1848, had three sons, viz., Arthur, present Marquis of Downshire; Lord William Frederick Hill, killed by a fall from his horse, March 18, 1844; and Lord Arthur Edwin Hill, M.P.; and two daughters, Lady Charlotte-Augusta, wife of Sir George Chetwynd, Bart.; and Lady Mary-Penelope, wife of the Hon. Alexander Nelson Hood. The Marchioness was one of the coheiresses of the barony of Windsor.

## MAJOR GEORGE DRUMMOND GRÆME, K.H., OF INCHBRAKIE, PERTH.

MAJOR GRÆME died on the 20th ult., at Tours, in France. He was second son of the late George Græme, of Inchbrakie, Captain 72nd Highlanders, who was wounded at the Siege of Gibraltar, and grandson of Patrick Græme, of Inchbrakie, Captain in the Dutch Service, who was served heir to Patrick, first of Inchbrakie, second son of William, first Earl of Montrose, slain at Flodden-field.

Major Græme served with reputation in the 2nd battalion King's German Legion, and in the Hanoverian Guards, having been present with the former distinguished corps through a long series of battles and skirmishes; and having, at Waterloo, made himself conspicuous in the defence of La Haye Sainte, from the roof of which he kept in check (with a handful of rifles, and until he fell wounded) the repeated charges of the Emperor's Cuirassiers, the corpses of his friends in arms forming a breastwork around. The broken-down wall borne in the shield of the ancient family of Græme is of significant notoriety: it was originally granted to an ancestor—in allusion to the prowess of the renowned progenitor who governed Scotland during the minority of his stepson Eugene II., repulsed the Roman legions, and, by overthrowing the mighty rampart of Antoninus, immortalised his name, so that to this day the ruins, still extant, retain the denomination of the Græme's Dyke.

Major Græme, whose death we record, married, in 1842, his cousin, Marianne Jane, daughter of James, Viscount Strathallan, and grand-daughter of the late Duke of Atholl, by whom he leaves issue.

## MISS LUNDIN, OF AUCHTERMAIRNIE, N.B.

THIS excellent lady died at her residence in Edinburgh, at the age of fifty-nine, last month. The family of which she was the representative is one of the oldest, and was, at one time, one of the most influential in Scotland. Its possessions extended over the greater part of the counties of Forfar and Fife, where estates and villages are still called by the name of Lundie. The family can be traced up to the time of Malcolm Canmore, King of Scotland, the earliest period in Scottish family history that any documents are extant. The Lundins were, probably, as Chalmers believes, one of those great Anglo-Norman families that settled in the neighbourhood of the Forth and the Tay. In the reign of William the Lion, one of his sons married the heiress of Lundin, and took her name with her estates. From this period the Lundins of Lundin enjoyed, in uninterrupted succession, their possessions and influence for the long period of nearly five hundred years. Near the middle of last century the estates were inherited by a female, who married the Earl of Perth, but the estate of Auchtermainie still continued in the possession of a younger branch of the original stock, and we hope it long may. Miss Lundin succeeded, in 1832, her brother, Captain Lundin, who died unmarried. She is succeeded by her sister, who is married, and has a large family. The arms of Lundin of Lundin were the Royal arms of Scotland, which they were permitted to wear, as being descended from Royalty. The arms of Auchtermainie were those of the family before their connection with the Sovereign, and are still worn by the present generation. The motto "Lam genus," &c., shows that birth and power were their most cherished inheritance. The estate of Lundin in Fifeshire is at present owned by a large insurance company. Auchtermainie remains in the family.

**WILLS AND PERSONALITY.**—The will of Lieut.-General the Right Hon. Lord Frederick Fitzclarence, Commander-in-Chief of the Forces at Bombay, has been proved in London: personally, £15,000, within the province of Canterbury. The Rev. Sir Thomas Gery Cullum, Bart., F.S.A., M.A., £45,000. The Rev. Jonathan Dawson, M.A., of Rollesby-hall, £40,000. The Rev. Joshua Rowley, £35,000. The Rev. James Haldane Stewart, M.A., £6000. Captain John Spencer Manning, 1st Dragoon Guards, of Portland Castle, £12,000. George Taylor, M.D., of Lewes, £12,000.

It appears from a recent Parliamentary return that there are in the Army 5553 full-pay commissions, the total regulation value of which is £8,068,535.

**A CHARGER FOR THE EMPRESS.**—The Emperor of the French has offered 1000 guineas, open to Great Britain and Ireland, for a perfectly broke charger for the Empress. He must be thorough-bred, quiet with troops, and stand fire.

**COLLISION IN THE IRISH SEA.**—The screw-steamer *North Carolina*, from Philadelphia to Liverpool, was run into and sunk off Barnsby, on Sunday morning, by the *Robert*, from Liverpool to New Orleans. The *Robert* put back with the captain and crew on board, and the remainder of the *Carolina's* passengers and crew were saved by another ship.

**A PROLIFIC EWE.**—A ewe, the property of Mr. Arnall, of Thrusington, Leicestershire, has had the immense number of twenty-two lambs in six years, and is still in a very healthy condition. She has had three lambs at a time for three times, four ditto twice, and once five.

**BONA FIDE TRAVELLERS.**—At the Ilford Petty Sessions on Saturday last the bench adjudicated in the case of the Lion and Key public-house at Leyton, the landlord of which was summoned for a breach of the Beer Act by supplying a glass of rum and water (on the Sunday) to a person who had walked six miles into the country, and represented himself as a "traveller." The chairman said that, having failed in finding anything that clearly defined the meaning of the word "traveller," they had been unable to lay down a law as to what a *bona fide* traveller may be considered to be. The case was one of great importance, and it had been considerably discussed among them; but they were not unanimous upon the subject, and therefore, the act being a penal one, they deemed it the safest course to give the landlord the benefit, and dismiss the case; at the same time he was bound to say that this was no rule for any other case of similar kind that might come before them, as each must stand upon its own merits; and they could not see why a man walking out for a few miles for his own pleasure could not regulate his time so as not to require refreshment on the road.

**THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT AND CUBA.**—The *Washington Union*, which is generally understood to be the organ of the American Cabinet, has published a semi-official declaration as to the intentions of the Cabinet with regard to Cuba. According to the *Union*:—"The purchase of Cuba presents the only peaceful remedy which would certainly place the relations of the two countries on the sure basis of enduring friendship. This is the measure proposed by the report of the Ostend Conference, and approved by the Administration. But we have shown that, for the present at least, this measure is regarded as impracticable. Other remedies have been suggested which address themselves to the legislative department of the Government. The repeal of our neutrality laws was passed in Congress near its close; but there were obvious reasons why so grave a proposition could not then be satisfactorily considered and acted upon. That the repeal of our neutrality laws would soon be followed by a successful revolution in Cuba can admit of little doubt. That such a revolution would be effectuated without ultimately involving the United States in a war with Spain, and probably with England and France, can hardly be assumed by any one. Whilst we have so fair a prospect of being compelled to resort to coercive measures for the redress of wrongs and insults already committed and persistently unatoned for by Spain, we are not disposed to anticipate a resort by Congress to an indirect mode of bringing about a state of war."

There is still another proposition which looks beyond the mere settlement and satisfaction of injuries and wrongs already inflicted—the seizure of the island of Cuba after a refusal by Spain to sell, upon the principle of national self-preservation. A resort to it presupposes two precedent conditions; first, that a full and liberal price for Cuba has been refused by Spain; secondly, that the annexation of the island is essential to the integrity and permanence of our Union. These two conditions established, the principle of national self-preservation becomes as clearly tenable as is the same doctrine amongst individuals."

## DESPATCH FROM LORD RAGLAN.

War Department, April 12, 1855.

Lord Panmure has this day received a despatch and its enclosures, of which the following are copies, addressed to his Lordship by Field Marshal the Lord Raglan, G.C.B.:—

Before Sebastopol, March 27.

My Lord,—Adverting to my despatch of the 24th instant, I do myself the honour to state that the following officers have been brought to my notice as having distinguished themselves on the night of the 22nd and morning of the 23rd, in addition to those whose names I have already submitted to your Lordship:—Major the Hon. James Lyon Browne, of the 21st Regiment, brother of the Hon. Captain Browne, of the Royal Fusiliers, who, it has already been my painful duty to report, fell upon this occasion; Captain Butler, of the 20th; and Captain Rickman, of the 77th.

I am happy to say that Captain Montagu, of the Royal Engineers, who was taken prisoner, was not wounded; and that Lieut.-Colonel Kelly, of the 34th Regiment, who also fell into the enemy's hands, is not severely wounded, though he received some injury both in his head and hand.

Major-General Eyre, the general officer of the trenches, highly eulogises the dispositions of Lieut.-Colonel Kelly, and laments the loss of his services.

The Major-General also speaks in the warmest terms of the conduct of Lieut.-Colonel Tylden, Royal Engineers, who received a contusion, which, however, I am glad to be able to assure your Lordship does not incapacitate him from continuing those exertions and displaying those qualities which render him so valuable an officer.

There was a suspension of hostilities for about three hours on Saturday, for the purpose of burying those who had fallen in the late encounters; and it was evident from the number of the bodies of the enemy, and of the French, to whom the last sad offices had to be paid, that the loss sustained both by the French and the Russians had been very severe, particularly that of the latter. Some French, too, were found lying close to the Mamelon—a proof that their gallant spirit had carried them up to the enemy's intrenchments.

Nothing of importance has since occurred. The siege operations continue to progress; and during the last two nights the interruption from the fire of the enemy has been inconsiderable.

The enemy are very assiduous in the improvement of their defences, and in the establishment of a trench in the front of the Mamelon, towards which our army is advancing by serpentine sap.

The weather continues very fine, and the appearance and health of the troops are manifestly improving.

Dr. Gavin, of the sanitary commission, and Mr. Rawlinson, civil engineer, have arrived, and are earnestly applying themselves to the discharge of the duties they have undertaken to perform; and I will take care that they receive every assistance it may be in my power to afford them.

I enclose the return of casualties to the 25th inst.

The *Himalaya* has arrived, and has been disembarking her horses yesterday and this day in Kasatch Bay.

Since writing the above, I have received the official report that Captain A. E. Hill, of the 89th Regiment, was severely wounded and taken prisoner last night whilst posted his sentries in front of the advanced trench on our extreme left.

I have, &c.,

RAGLAN.

Nominal Return of Non-commissioned Officers and Privates Wounded from the 23rd to 25th March, 1855, inclusive.

Royal Artillery: Gunners and Drivers Samuel Bowers and Ralph Murray, slightly. 19th Foot: Private Charles Austin, slightly. 44th Foot: Private Richard Griffiths, severely.

J. B. BUCKNALL ESTCOURT, Adjutant-General.

**DEPARTURE OF THE GUARDS FOR THE CRIMEA.**—On Thursday morning, at half-past seven o'clock, the detachments of the household infantry, under orders to join their brothers in arms at the seat of war, were mustered and paraded at the different barracks. The draughts consisted of five officers and 420 Grenadier Guards for the third battalion; five officers and 307 Coldstreams for the first battalion. The men, their arms, and accoutrements, having been minutely inspected, they were addressed in most enthusiastic and energetic terms on the nature of the service in which they were about to embark. Columns of section having been formed, and the words "Quick march!" given, the men started with buoyant step, the bands playing several favourite airs as they went along. The crowds in the streets greeted them with enthusiasm, and on their arrival at the terminus of the South-Western Railway a prolonged cheer was given by those outside.

**EMBARKATION OF THE ROYAL HORSE ARTILLERY.**—The portion of the Royal Horse Artillery, embarked at Southampton on Wednesday, consisted of 190 horses, 13 officers, and 306 men, besides six 24-pounders (brass), with the usual ammunition wagons, rocket and hospital carriages, and about seven wagon-loads of ammunition, weighing about thirty tons. A great portion of the horses appear to be recently added to the corps. Many of them are of the Belgian breed, somewhat less in height than artillery horses generally, yet possessing in a remarkable degree great substance, bone, and muscular power, and, therefore, admirably adapted for the purposes for which they are intended. The method by which they were embarked deserves especial notice. The *Argo* lay in the inner dock, into which she floated at high water. The water in the outer or tidal dock being considerably lower in the morning, at ebb, Mr. Hedger, superintendent of the dock company, allowed that from the former basin to flow out, thus bringing the deck of the *Argo* on a level with the platform. A strong gangway, securely raised off at the sides, was then laid down, across which the horses walked with the greatest ease, and without evincing the slightest trepidation. Those intended for the main deck were at once lowered without any difficulty whatever, and the remainder were securely housed between the decks, the shipping of the whole number occupying an incredibly brief space of time. The superintending officers expressed their great satisfaction at this arrangement, and declared they had never before witnessed a similar embarkation with less trouble or inconvenience.

**FIGHTING A RUSSIAN GUN.**—This morning a heavy gun on the left embrasure of the Mamelon was opened on No. 3 battery, in the right attack. The electric telegraph has now been completed between Lord Raglan's headquarters and all the trenches, and by this a message was sent informing his Lordship of the opening of the gun, and asking advice. The reply was "fight it," and preparations were made accordingly. A long 68-pounder gun, from the *Terrible*, was found to bear upon the precise spot, and this, therefore, was the gun selected to fight the Russian one. The practice made with it was perfect—never was better fighting seen since the siege commenced. The very first shot tore away one side of the Russian embrasure, and laid the enemy's gun completely open. The next struck the gun full in the muzzle, shattering and dismounting it within five minutes after the order had been given to fight the enemy's gun. Lord Raglan was informed by the telegraph that it had been fought, and was then dismounted and broken. Orders were then sent back for the same 68-pounder to fire every half-hour in the same spot for the rest of the day. Before the day was half over the greater part of the earthwork at each side of the embrasure was quite destroyed, and what seemed most strange, after their gun was dismounted, not a single Russian battery fired a shot in reply to ours. This unusual circumstance no one could account for.—*Letter from the Camp, March 25.*

**COMMISSION ON THE TRANSPORT OF STORES.**—The late Minister of War issued a commission to Captain Craigie, R.N., Colonel Tulloch, and Mr. A. Stewart, to inquire into the irregularities in the transport of stores to the East. They have investigated the statement "that the *Robert Lowe* transport conveyed a quantity of medical stores destined for Scutari, over which were placed cylinders of powder and other things destined for Balaklava;" and they report that this statement is entirely unfounded. It was shown by a drawing of the part of the ship in which the cylinders were that no medical stores could have been placed beneath them. The Commissioners have also obtained ample proof that, in the case of the *Prince*, the shot, shell, and gunpowder were not placed above the medical stores, the fact being that the shot and shell were placed on board before the medical stores. These stores might have been landed "without any difficulty during the thirty hours the *Prince* lay at Constantinople;" but the Captain, anxious to get on with the troops, did not examine the cargo-book, and did not know where the medical stores were placed. The Commissioners add to their report several useful suggestions.

**A FIGHT AND A FIRE.**—Two little "affairs," calculated to break the monotony

## MUSIC.

THE opening of the ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA, which was to have taken place on Tuesday last, was postponed to Thursday. The opera selected on this occasion was Rossini's "Comte Ory," a piece which was performed several times with considerable success in the course of last season. It owed its success to the beauty of the music and the brilliancy of Mademoiselle Bosio's singing, for the opera, as a drama, is beneath contempt. An additional interest was given to its performance by the accession of Gardoni, who has not appeared on our opera stage since the closing of Her Majesty's Theatre. Next Thursday the Queen is to visit the Opera in state, accompanied by her illustrious guests, the Emperor and Empress of the French; on which occasion "Fidelio" is to be performed, and the celebrated Jenny Ney will make her first appearance in England.

THE opening of DRURY LANE, too, with an operatic company, which was to have taken place on Monday last, has been postponed to Friday. Signor and Madame Gassier, announced to appear in the "Sonambula," are singers of considerable reputation on the Continent. Next week we shall be able to describe their débüt and its success.

THERE was another "Monster Concert" at Exeter-hall on Wednesday evening, given by Mr. Case—a gentleman principally known as a performer on the concertina. Its only remarkable feature was its bulk. "There were," says a daily contemporary, "twenty male and female vocal performers; nineteen solo instrumentalists, six of whom were piano-forte players; a pretty numerous orchestra, led by Mr. Viotti Collins; and no less than seven conductors. The number of the pieces in the programme was forty-two—many of which were instrumental solos of great length." The list of performers included almost every eminent name in London; but the programme consisted almost entirely of common and familiar things, which, though they appear hackneyed to the *blâsé* concert-goer, are nevertheless sufficient to please a popular audience not in the habit of frequenting such entertainments.

HARMONIC UNION, HANOVER-SQUARE ROOMS.—At the next concert, which takes place on Wednesday, Mendelssohn's music to "A Midsummer Night's Dream" and the "Walpurgis Night" will be performed. Signor Piatti is engaged for Molique's Violoncello Concerto—a work which created a great sensation when first performed by the Philharmonic Society.

THE Queen of Spain has been pleased to confer the honour of Chevalier of the Order of Charles III. on Mr. W. J. Smith, of her Majesty's Office of Works, Whitehall.

CREMORNE GARDENS.—The Easter festivities at this popular resort were liberally patronised on Monday, and the musical and other novelties which had been advertised appeared to give great satisfaction.

SPARKS AND SPECS OF SAM SLICK" AT THE POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.—On Saturday evening we were favoured with a private view of this Diorama, which is both novel in character and excellent in effect. After some delay, rendered necessary by the important preparations for so extensive an experiment, Mr. Pepper appeared, and explained the difficulties under which they laboured, and stated that it was the first attempt at a rehearsal of the entertainment. The working, however, of the Diorama proved better than had been expected. The lecturer, who was not named, but who was either, by general report, Mr. Barnard or Mr. Hall, stated that the Egyptian-hall Diorama of some years since was the origin of those that are now so frequently exhibited. The present is certainly painted in a highly-pleasing style, well illustrative of the lecture, besides presenting a series of the great cities of the United States. Commencing at Liverpool, with the steamer lying off St. George's Dock, we are taken to witness the burning of the Ocean Monarch, the stranding of the Great Britain in Dundrum-bay, a storm in the Atlantic and floating icebergs, and at length to Boston. Here the main interest of the diorama really begins. To enable the Britannia steam-ship to sail for England, a channel is cut, eight miles in length, through the ice; the river steamers are brought into play, in order to land the passengers at Charleston, and enable them to arrive at Boston. Jenny Lind's hotel at New York was an object of interest, with the furniture, which was long preserved, until finally sold by auction—the auctioneer describing her bed as the "nightly receptacle of her vocalised bones." The Broadway also presents its points of attraction. Philadelphia, Baltimore, and Washington succeed. The lecture was, in parts, highly humorous in its details and reflections. Some interesting experiments on glass followed the exhibition of the diorama, and the company parted highly delighted with the evening's entertainment.

A CRIMEA LOTTERY.—On Thursday week last a raffle for the benefit of the widows and orphans of officers who have fallen in the Crimea took place in the large Assembly-room of Carmarthen. The originator of the scheme, and the artist from whose brush the twenty-four beautiful paintings and sketches emanated, was Mrs. Jones, of Pantglas, wife of the county representative—a lady whose devotion to and furtherance of every kind and charitable work is too well known to require eulogy. Mrs. Jones was present, and presided over the drawing of the raffle. The attendance in the hall was numerous and fashionable. The tickets, 200 in number, were placed in a box similar to that in which the names of subscribers were deposited, and Mrs. Jones' youthful daughter drew the different tickets. Among the prize-holders were Lord Dynevor, the Bishop of St. David's, Lady Hamilton, Mrs. Edwards, &c. It is indeed pleasing to reflect that by the industry and philanthropy of one lady no less than £50 will be realised on behalf of a class of sufferers more to be pitied than any others left destitute by the war.

TESTIMONIAL TO MR. G. D. THOMPSON.—On Wednesday evening a party of gentlemen, including several eminent members of the clerical and medical professions, with a strong contribution from the circles of art and literature, met at Bradley's Hotel, for the twofold purpose of enjoying an excellent dinner, and presenting a testimonial to Mr. G. Douglas Thompson. This gentleman, we should state, is well known for his success in dealing with all defects of the voice, whether contracted by habit, caused by nervous affection, or arising from malformation of the teeth or palate. He is a skilful master of what has received the name of an art—phoniatrics. This art Mr. Thompson has for many years practised in London, and the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge, with uniform and decided success. Possessing the accomplishments of a scholar and a poet, Mr. Thompson blends with his mode of treatment exercises that improve the mind, while he trains and strengthens the organs of voice; and those who have sought him as pupils, in very many cases, remain to him as friends. In their feeling of the value of his services arose the gathering of Wednesday evening. Mr. Samuel Lover, the popular author and artist, presided, and, in the address with which he prefaced the toast of the evening, gracefully touched on the qualities above alluded to, introducing in his happiest vein of humour anecdotes and illustrations that by turns sparkled with wit affected by pathos. The testimonial presented to Mr. Thompson was a handsome silver inkstand and a rare quarto edition of "Shakspeare." With the first Mr. Lover expressed a hope Mr. Thompson would resume the pen as a lyricist; and in presenting the works of our great dramatist he reminded Mr. Thompson that his art had indeed Royal countenance, since the Prince of Denmark himself gave the "poor players" a masterly lesson in elocution. Mr. Lover read numerous extracts from the written testimonies Mr. Thompson has received from men high in rank and reputation in the Church; from medical men as eminent as Dr. Edward Meryon, and the late lamented Dr. Golding Bird; and from artists, who, as in the case of Mr. Gustavus Brooke, the tragedian, owe to Mr. Thompson's skill the restoration of a lost voice. Mr. Thompson acknowledged the gifts in a modest and feeling manner, and delighted the party by reading a scene from "The Merchant of Venice" in a style that elicited the warmest applause. The company did not separate till a late hour: a more pleasant evening has seldom been spent.

ANOTHER IMPRISONMENT IN TUSCANY FOR READING THE BIBLE.—The case of the Medias has just been repeated by the Tuscan Government, in sentencing an individual to twelve months' imprisonment for the crime of possessing and perusing an Italian copy of the Scriptures. The name of the person is Domenico Cecchetti, a workman in a tobacco manufactory, and much esteemed by his employers. As he is a widower, with four boys, of whom the eldest is sixteen and the youngest six, there has devolved on him not only the task of maintaining his family, but of discharging all those domestic duties which are a mother's peculiar province. And these duties he has discharged so well that his four boys are patterns of good conduct, and the whole neighbourhood is wont to speak of Cecchetti's children as the model of what children ought to be. A young man, a neighbour (apprentice of a vintner), was struck by the good conduct of the young Cecchetts, and by the excellent and kind bearing of the father; and, in the course of familiar intercourse, learned that the father was in the habit of reading with his children and his friends the Bible; and in casual chat with his own master he repeated the circumstance to him. A few days afterwards the vintner went to confession at San Lorenzo, and there mentioned to the confessor that his apprentice had been talking to him about Diodati's Bible, which he thought not so bad as it had been represented. The priest immediately interrupted the confession, and refused him absolution. Next day he met Buratti, the first Curate of San Lorenzo. "Why, what is the matter with you?" said Curate Buratti, "you seem so dull!" "Ah, curate, no wonder: yesterday I was refused absolution." "Refused absolution!" rejoined the curate, "impossible! refuse absolution to so good a Catholic as you! There must be some mistake. Come to my house and confess to me; and I hope it will prove nothing." The vintner made his confession to Curate Buratti, and received absolution; and Curate Buratti lost no time in denouncing Domenico Cecchetti to the Tuscan police as guilty of the crime of Protestant propaganda, and requiring them to watch over his proceedings, and, if possible, to seize him in the act. Accordingly, about nine o'clock in the evening, they seized and carried off Cecchetti's house, and triumphantly one copy of Diodati's Bible and two copies of the New Testament. Cecchetti heard nothing more of the matter for nearly ten weeks. On the morning of Wednesday, the 14th ult., he received an order to appear before the delegate of Santa Maria Nevella in the afternoon of the same day. The result of the examination was his being sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment, for no other crime than reading an Italian Bible!

## CHESS.

## TO CORRESPONDENTS.

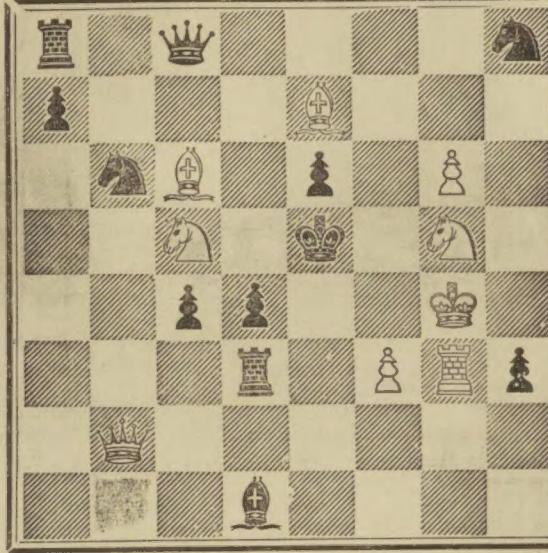
J. E. B.; J. E. SMITH, Dorset; DEREVON, M., Aberdeenshire; R. T. V., OLD STAGER.—The Solutions of Mr. Bolton's, Elchardt's, and the Indian Problem, you have sent, are the true ones.  
 T. O.—The adversary has the option of inflicting whichever of the penalties he pleases.  
 2. The "Chess Player's Handbook," published by Bohm, of Covent-garden, price 6s., in English; or the German Handbuch, price 12s.  
 G. McA.—Your Solution of Mutasim Billah's Problem appears to be correct.  
 OSSIAN.—The Solutions at page 155 are misnumbered, that is all. They are the Solutions of Nos. 572 and 573, not of 571 and 572. The first move in the Solution of 572 is obviously Q R to Q R 4th, not Q to Q R 4th.  
 CHURCH. RUINS.—admits of two Solutions.  
 A. H.—Much below our standard.  
 MILOR.—You have outdone the White King altogether.  
 J. KENTISH, J. R., of Merton.—Not, but too easy for our columns.  
 SIE G. S.—A printed communication shall be forwarded.  
 BERNARD.—You can obtain a list of the Committee, of subscriptions, and all necessary information connected with the forthcoming Meeting at Leamington, by applying to the Rev. Mr. Temple, of Leamington.  
 R. F. S., Dublin.—I. When a player has won two or three matches by a large majority of games, he may fairly demand to give his opponent the Pawn and move. 2. Messrs. Kent, 52, Paternoster-row, London.  
 R. J. E.—Thanks. It is very pretty, and shall have a niche.  
 SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEMS.—No. 580, by E. F., Norwood; E. Lambert, M., Aberdeenshire; R. R., Tower Villa; Cato, Bumble, Argus, S. P. Q. R., Pendragon, J. E. B., H. I., Custon House; J. E. Smith, R. B., C. A. M., Milor, Glasgow; Phideas, R. A., Belmont; J. C. B.; T. J. of Handsworth; Pyramus, G. McA., are correct.  
 SOLUTIONS OF ENIGMAS, by F. P., T. W. Z., W. S. B., Ramsgate; Phiz, Omar, G. McA., J. Stonehouse, Arab, "Know-nothing," Ben Bowling, H. M. S. V., are correct. All others are wrong.

\* \* \* Several Notices to Correspondents are unavoidably postponed

## PROBLEM NO. 582.

By S. A.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in five moves.

## CHESS IN THE METROPOLIS.

DEATH OF MR. G. PERIGAL, LATE HON. SECRETARY TO THE LONDON CHESS-CLUB.—Of that formidable phalanx of players which a few years back was the pride and boast of the old civic Chess-club—conspicuous in the ranks of which stood Lewis McDonnell, Cochrane, Mercier, Brand, Fraser, Popert, Horwitz, Slous, Walker, Pulling, Perigal, Waits, Jones, &c.—the numbers are rapidly diminishing. Death has done his melancholy work, and those whom he has spared, have, for the most part, retired from active service, so that in the arena of their glory their places know no longer. The gentleman whose decease we have to-day the pain of recording was for several years the Hon. Secretary of this Club—an office he appears to have been eminently qualified to fill, and his resignation of which, through ill-health, we believe was very generally deplored. He was an excellent player—well studied, and well practised: not, perhaps, entitled to rank in the highest class of all—for his game was elegant and finished, rather than profound or comprehensive—but certainly he stood only one grade below that; and he has left scores of games which no amateur capable of appreciating the refinements of Chess skill will willingly let die. The two games which follow exhibit his powers both in attack and defence advantageously; and we hope next week to give some farther openings.

WHITE	BLACK	WHITE	BLACK
(Mr. G. Perigal). (Mr. Pulling).		(Mr. G. Perigal). (Mr. Pulling).	
1. P to K 4th	P to K 4th	26. B to K 3rd	Q to his B 5th (ch)
2. K Kt to K B 3rd	Q Kt to Q B 3rd	27. K to his Kt sq	K to his 4th (g)
3. K B to Q B 4th	K B to Q B 4th	28. P to K B 4th (ch) K to his B 4th	
4. Q Kt to Q B 3rd (a) P to Q 3rd	K Kt to K B 3rd	29. Q to K 5th (ch) K to his 5th	
5. P to K B 3rd	K Kt to K B 3rd	30. Q takes B K takes B	
6. P to Q 3rd	P to K R 3rd	31. R to K sq (ch) K to Q 5th	
7. Q Kt to K 2nd	K to K 2nd	32. Q to K Kt 5th K R to Q 3rd	
8. Q Kt to K Kt 3rd	P to K Kt 4th	33. P to K B 5th K takes Q P	
9. P to Q B 3rd	P to K Kt 5th	34. P to K B 6th (dis. K to Q B 3rd ch)	
10. P takes P K takes P at his 5th		35. R to Q B sq Q takes R (ch) K to Q 2nd	
11. P to Q 4th P takes P	P to K 4th (P)	36. Q takes Q (ch) K to Q B 3rd	
12. Q B P takes P Q Kt takes P (b)		37. Q to K 5th (ch) Q R to Q sq	
13. Kt takes Kt Q to K 4th		38. Q to K B 5th (ch) K to Q B 3rd	
14. Kt to K B 3rd (c) B to Q Kt 5th (ch)		39. P to K 4th K R to Q 8th (ch) K to Q 7th (ch)	
15. K to K B sq Q takes Kt		40. K to B 2nd Q R to Q 7th (ch)	
16. Q takes K B P (ch) K to Q sq		41. K to his Kt 3rd K R to K Kt 8th (ch)	
17. K B to K 2nd P to Q 4th (d)		42. K to R 4th K R to B 8th (ch)	
18. K R takes KRP (e) R takes R K to K 5th		43. K to K 5th Q R to Q 4th	
19. K B takes Kt R to K B 3rd		44. P to K B 7th K R to his sq	
20. Q to K Kt 8th (ch) K B to his sq		45. Q takes Q R (ch) K takes Q	
21. Kt to K 5th Q B takes Kt R to K B 8th		46. K to B 6th R to K R 8th	
22. Q B to K Kt 5th (f) B takes K B		47. P to K 5th R to K B 8th (ch)	
23. Q takes K B (ch) K to Q 2nd		48. K to his 7th P to Q 4th	
24. Q to Kt 7th (ch) K to his 3rd		49. P to K Kt 6th	
25. K P takes QP (ch) K to B 4th			

And White won the game.

(e) This is a good sound opening, and should be more frequently played than it is.  
 (f) Bold, but ingeniously conceived.  
 (g) It would have been vain to attempt to preserve the Kt.

(h) Insidious; having in view a dangerous attack upon the adverse Queen by playing K R to K 5th.

(i) This effectively frustrates all Black's plans; for if he now play the Rook to B sq, White gives check with his Queen's Bishop, and wins easily.

(j) These moves are very clever, and render the position highly critical and interesting.

(k) To avoid the evil consequences of the White Queen's threatened check at her K Kt 5th. We have some misgivings, however, as to this being Black's best resource.

## BETWEEN MR. G. PERIGAL AND MR. SPRECKLEY.

(Evans' Gambit.)

WHITE. (Mr. S.)	BLACK. (Mr. P.)	WHITE (Mr. S.)	BLACK (Mr. P.)
1. P to K 4th	P to K 4th	24. K takes P K to K 2nd	
2. K Kt to K B 3rd	Q Kt to Q B 3rd	25. R takes R B takes R	
3. K B to Q B 4th	K B to Q B 4th	26. K to B sq P to K R 3rd	
4. P to Q Kt 4th	B takes Kt P	27. K to K 4th P to Q Kt 3rd	
5. P to Q B 3rd	B to Q R 4th	28. P to K Kt 4th P to Q B 4th	
6. Castles P to Q 3rd	P to K 3rd	29. R to K sq K to Q 2nd	
7. P to Q 4th	P takes P	30. K to K 2nd K to Q 4th	
8. Q to Kt 3rd (a) Q to K 2nd	P to K 2nd	31. P to Q R 4th K to Q B 3rd	
9. P to K 5th P takes K P		32. K to Q 3rd P to Q Kt 4th	
10. R to K sq B to Q Kt 3rd		33. P takes P (ch) K takes P	
11. B to Q R 3rd Q to K B 3rd		34. Kt to Q 6th (ch) K to Q B 3rd	
12. Kt takes K P K takes Kt		35. Kt to K 7th B to Kt 2nd	
13. B takes P (ch) K to Q sq		36. Kt to K 5th (ch) K to Kt 4th	
14. Q to Q 5th (ch) B to Q 2nd		37. Kt takes P P to Q R 4th	
15. B takes Kt P to Q B 3rd		38. P to K B 4th P to Q R 5th	
16. R to K 8th (ch) K to B 2nd		39. K to B 2nd K to Kt 5th	
17. Q to Q 6th (ch) Q takes Q		40. K to Kt sq B to Q 5th	
18. B takes Q (ch) K takes B		41. P to K R 4th P to Q R 6th	
19. R takes Q R (b) B to K 3rd		42. R to K 2nd K to B 5th	
20. B takes B K takes B			



THE RAISING OF THE BARQUE "SAMUEL," IN THE THAMES.

pinned down at low water, held the vessel slung between them, while the rising tide carried her towards shore. This operation was repeated at each successive tide until placed sufficiently high on shore for the damage to be repaired. The accompanying Illustration shows the position of the vessel as her hull became visible above water, she having been carried for a considerable distance up the river while so slung, the shore in the neighbourhood of the disaster being unfavourable for the purpose. The *Samuel* is now in the West India Docks, discharging her cargo previously to undergoing thorough repairs.

#### THE GEELONG AND MELBOURNE RAILWAY.

AUSTRALIA is singularly deficient in rivers, and these often spread into marshes, and do not preserve any course which can be called long when compared with the size of the continent. Hence, the occupation of the country, unlike America, is restricted within narrow limits, except by sheep-farmers and graziers, who have extensive runs, far from the towns and seated districts. To develop, therefore, the resources of the colony, and to promote the social interests of its population, railways were imperatively demanded. With the importance of this demand the present

Lieutenant-Governor of Victoria, Sir Charles Hotham, became so fully impressed, that soon after his assuming the Government (in December, 1853), in order to encourage Railway enterprise, his Excellency made large grants of land and assigned guarantees out of the territorial revenue. A railway had already been commenced from Geelong to Melbourne, a distance of forty-five miles, in September, 1853; and one of the latest acts of Governor Latrobe was the laying of the foundation-stone of the Geelong Terminus, and the inauguration ceremony was engraved in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS for Dec. 31. Sir Charles Hotham took up the great work which his predecessor had commenced; and one of the earliest steps of the new Governor was the inspection of the railway works, and the extension of the guarantee of 5 per cent interest, before limited to £200,000, to the entire capital of £350,000. At the same time the Governor made further grants of land for the general purposes of the Company. Since the date of our former Illustration the undertaking has been progressing most satisfactorily towards completion; and the entire line is expected to be opened at the close of the present year. We now engrave a View of the Station and Workshops of the Geelong Terminus.

The economy of this railway communication between the capitals of the gold district is evident. The formation of common roads to the digging population, from the tributary towns, has already cost the Go-

vernment some millions of money; and up to this time the great trunk highways to Ballarat, Castlemaine, and Sandhurst, during the winter months, are lined with broken-down drays, bogged and checked in their journey by the freshets in the creeks. Under the head of "Roads," "Bridges," "Police," and "Transport," may be found the largest items of the Colonial Public Expenditure; and it is only by the adoption of a general economic system of railways that the vast and increasing wants of the community can be adequately provided for, and the Colonial exchequer proportionally benefited. Of the wise policy of extending the inventive triumph of the Old World to aid in the development of the natural resources of the New, it has been well observed by Mr. Stirling, in his able volume upon the "Australian and Californian Gold Discoveries," that Australia is "the first example in history of the discovery of abundant gold-fields in the midst of a civilised and intelligent community, already possessed of capital, and having its industry organised and protected by a stable Government and free institutions;" a position which promises much for the success of such enlightened enterprise as railway communication; especially when backed by a Government guarantee of a minimum of five per cent, and all profits beyond, to the shareholders, as in the case of the Geelong and Melbourne Railway Company.



THE GEELONG AND MELBOURNE RAILWAY.—GEELONG TERMINUS.

## SOCIETY OF BRITISH ARTISTS.

MR. J. J. HILL'S single contribution to the Gallery in Suffolk-street belongs to that class of subject of which the English have always been particularly fond. He calls it "The Cabin Door;" and his picture presents a young, comely, barefooted peasant girl giving a drink of milk to a barefooted boy of six years old, who is evidently enjoying the contents of the bowl that he holds to his lip with one hand, while his other hand, extended to the pail from which the bowl has been filled, evinces (very naturally) a longing for more when this is done. An attendant goat completes the picture.

In cabinet pictures of this class there is not much room for any effort of fancy; nor, indeed, does the subject allow of anything more than a happy transcript of every-day life in the rural districts. Skill in execution more than compensates for any absence of invention; and in renewing our acquaintance with the Collection in Suffolk-street we have been at a loss to discover any one work of art, of its class, more true to peasant life than the "Cabin Door" of Mr. Hill. The complexion of the girl is, to our taste, too pinky; but this may be its recommendation to those critics who see in Mr. Holman Hunt's unnatural hues the closest attention to everyday nature.

We shall seek another opportunity of engraving one more picture from this Collection; and shall then conclude our remarks on the prospects of a Society which promises, after a fitful life, to continue prospering.

THE PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION.  
(CONCLUDING NOTICE.)

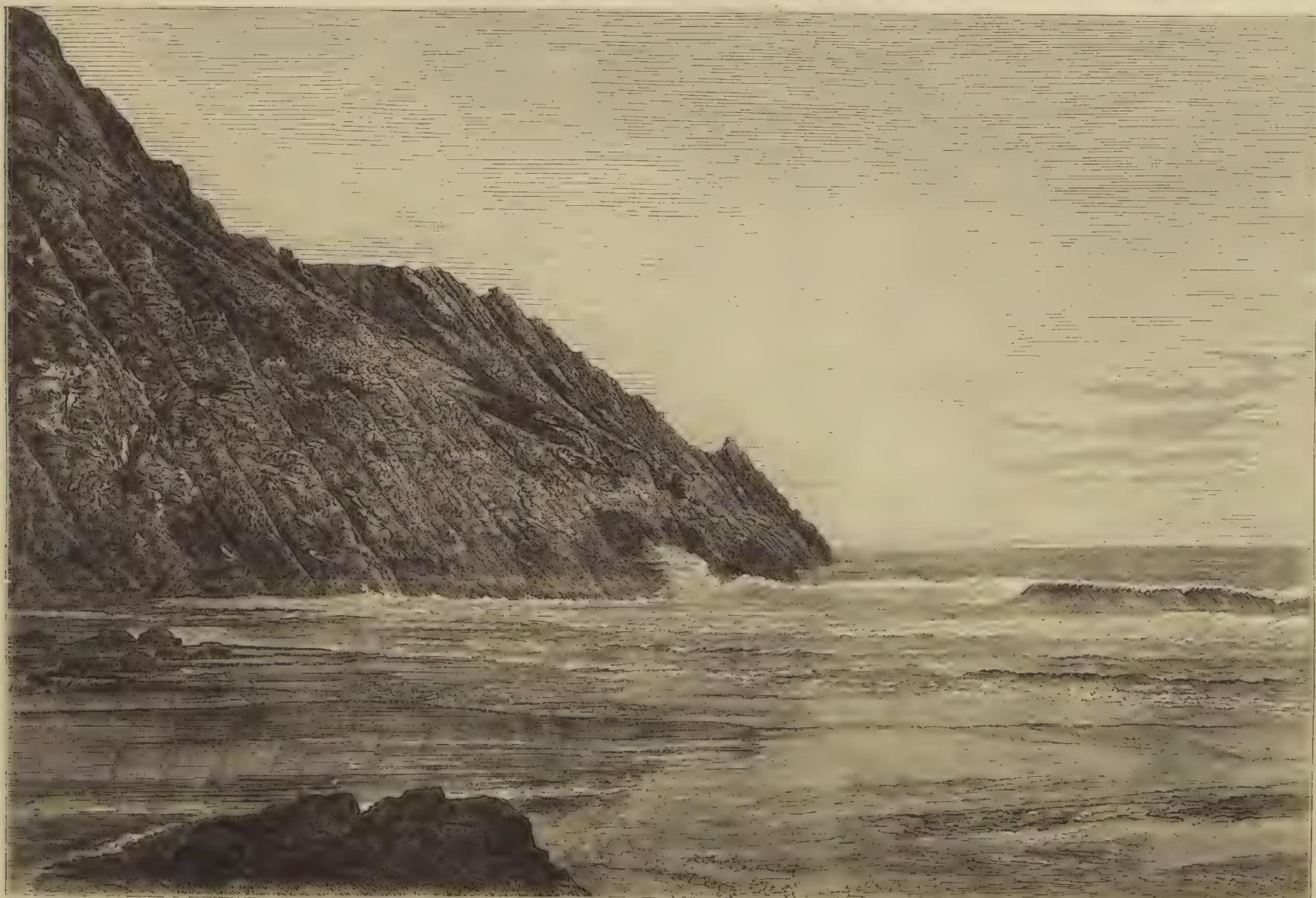
In connection with the perfect representation of landscape scenery there are two difficulties with which the photographer has as present to contend. They are the representation of moving water and the foliage of trees, which is almost always in motion. The most successful representation of water is the views, a copy of one of which we have engraved, of "Waves in Caswell and Three Cliffs Bay," by Mr. Llewellyn. They are remarkable for their brilliant play of light and distinctness in the dark shades upon the surface of the rocks, not less than for the accurate manner in which the waves are represented. Some views of Mr. Fenton, showing the departure of the squadron of Admiral Napier for the Baltic, are also eminently successful with the water. Passing from the regions of "still life," Photography has essayed its hand at the "fleeting clouds," and in this department Mr. Sherlock has been highly successful. It is not easy to overrate the value to artists of such studies of clouds as those by Mr. Sherlock, Mr. Hennah, and some very good examples sent by Prince



"THE CABIN DOOR."—PAINTED BY J. J. HILL.—EXHIBITION OF THE SOCIETY OF BRITISH ARTISTS.

Albert. Another highly valuable assistance which Photography is calculated to render to the artist is in the representation of animal forms. There is a most valuable collection of Photographs of live animals and birds, from the Zoological Gardens, by the Count de Montizon. The varied expression of these animals—the keen glance of the eagle, the fierce glare of the lion's eye, the soft expression of the giraffe—are rendered with a precision and beauty which make these photographs exceedingly valuable alike to the connoisseur and to the artist. We noticed, also, a few very good specimens of dogs and deer, by Mr. W. Bainbridge, taken for her Majesty by the artist. A Calotype Portrait of a Lunatic Patient in Dr. Diamond's Asylum, illustrative of that peculiar and most distressing phase of lunacy, "melancholy," shows how much Photography may be made subservient to even this branch of medical science. The startling revelations of the microscope, of the breathing system, of the structure of bones, of the marvellous and minute anatomy of insect life, of sections of mineralogical specimens, when secured by the camera, in the clear and distinct form in which they are presented by the Rev. Mr. Kingsley and others, proves that a new and vast field is open to the photographer, in which his exertions will be alike beneficial to the cause of science and of popular instruction. In the production of copies of ancient pictures, and sketches of statuary and smaller works of art, the sun's actinic rays have shown themselves equally docile and useful. Most successful instances of this are to be found in a series of Photographs of sketches of Raphael in the Royal Collection at Windsor. They include, among others, the "Murder of the Innocents," a "Pieta," a "Leda," studies with the pen for the heads of Homer, Virgil, and Dante, the "Three Graces," &c. It is, we believe, the intention of his Royal Highness to distribute copies of these works among the principal museums and collections in the country, and to obtain in exchange copies of other fine works which exist in some of our collections, but which are but very imperfectly known and appreciated. The photographs of Mr. Bedford, of a "Chinese Card-rack," some Shields and some Statuettes, are remarkably fine and real in their appearance.

The portrait department did not evince so much progress as that of landscape and still life. The finest portraits in the collection are undoubtedly two of Mr. Rosling's, of a lady. They appear to us to be the very perfection of Photography. Some very good cases of specimens are sent by the principal photographers, such as Mr. Mayall, Mr. Henneman, and others, which fully sustain their reputation; and those who may admire pretty miniature likenesses, rather than fine photographic specimens, will be able to witness some very charming coloured portraits, principally contributed by Mr. Mayall.



"WAVES IN CASWELL AND THREE CLIFFS BAY."—FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY LLEWELLYN.



## AMUSEMENTS, &amp;c.

**THEATRE ROYAL, HAYMARKET.**—MONDAY, 16th APRIL, and During the Week. Individually the Last Six Nights of the SPANISH DANGERS, and Last Six Nights of the SECRET AGENT, in consequence of the engagement of Miss Cushman on Monday, 23rd April, and of Mr. Sims Reeves, Tuesday, 24th.

**ROYAL PRINCESS' THEATRE.**—Monday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday, Louis XI.; Tuesday, Faust and Marguerite; Thursday, The Corsican Brothers; Maletice of Toledo; or, King, Queen, and Knave, Every Evening.

**GREAT NATIONAL STANDARD THEATRE,** Shoreditch.—Continued success of the celebrated Miss GLYN, as the "Duchess of Malfi," Mr. Henry Marston, with Mr. George Wild and Miss Fanny Williams. Every evening.

**ROYAL MARIONETTE THEATRE.**—The New Grand DIORAMA of the RUSSIAN WAR, with a beautifully illustrated Map. Every Evening at Eight; Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, at Three.

**GO and hear LOVE, the Greatest Dramatic Ventriloquist in Europe, at the UPPER HALL, 69, Quadrant, Regent-street, EVERY EVENING, at EIGHT, except Saturday, Saturday at Three, Stalls, 3s.; Area, 2s.; Gallery, 1s. Pianoforte, Miss Julia Warman.**

**ROYAL GALLERY of ILLUSTRATION,** 14, Regent-street.—The DIORAMA illustrating EVENTS of the WAR is now exhibiting daily at Three and Eight. The Lecture by Mr. Stoqueler. Admission, 1s., 2s., and 3s.

**A DAM and EVE.**—This great original work, by JOSEPH VAN LERIUS, is now ON VIEW at 57, PALL-MALL (opposite Marlborough-house), from Eleven to six, daily.—Admission, 1s.

**ADVANCE, AUSTRALIA!**—PROUT'S A VOYAGE to AUSTRALIA and VISIT to the GOLD REGIONS (date of 309, Regent-street), daily at Three and Seven. Admission, 1s.; stalls, 2s.; gallery, 6d.—Leicester-square Rooms (same entrance as the Azteca Exhibition).

**PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION.**—An exhibition of the finest English, French, and Italian Photographs will be opened at the PHOTOGRAPHIC INSTITUTION, 168, New Bond-street, on MONDAY, April 23rd. Morning, open from 10 to 5. Admission, with Catalogue, 1s. Evening, open from 7 to 9. Admission, 6d.

**MUSICAL UNION.—TUESDAY, Half-past Three.**—Quartet (7s), Haydn; Trio (Op. 70) in D, Beethoven; Quintet, G minor, Mozart; Solos on the Pianoforte. Artists: Ernst, Cooper, Hill, Gottlieb, Flatti, &c. Pianist: Pater. Visitors' Tickets to be had of Cramer and Co., Chappell and Co., and Olivier, Hall's, engaged for the Second Matinée. J. ELLA, Director.

**EXETER-HALL.—Sir HENRY BISHOP.**—The Second EVENING CONCERT at Exeter-hall will take place on MONDAY, APRIL 16th, commencing at Eight o'clock. The Afternoon and Evening Concerts will be given at Hanover-square Rooms on Saturday next, 21st April. Tickets Reserved Seats, full Programme, &c., at Mitchell's, Royal Library, 33, Old Bond-street, and at the Libraries; also at Messrs. Keith and Prowse, Cheapside.

**ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.—PATERON H.R.H. PRINCE ALBERT.**—Monday Evening, the 11th inst., LECTURE to the Industrial Classes—On the RADIATION of HEAT, by the Rev. Professor Baden Powell, F.R.S., &c. In addition to New Dissolving Views, a splendid Moving Diorama, Illustrating an Entertainment called "Sam Slick at Home and Abroad," depicting the Passage from Liverpool, across the Atlantic, and embracing Views of the principal Cities in the United States, is now added to the other attractions of the Institution, and will be shown daily at Three and Eight.

**ROYAL PANOPTICON of SCIENCE and ART, Leicester-square.—EASTER HOLIDAYS.**—The following attractive novelties will be exhibited during the Week—Large additions to the Dioramic Views of the War in the Crimes on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings, at 10.15 a.m.; in Pompeii on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday evenings, at 9.15 p.m.; and Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday evenings, at 10.15. Dioramic View of the Moon's Path in the Starry Heavens, Monday evening and Saturday morning. Grand Organ performance daily at 3 and 8.25. Luminous Fountain, Grand Electrical Machine, and other Performances and Lectures as usual.—Doors open—Morning, 12 to 5; Evening, 7 to 10. Admission, 1s.; Schools and Children, half-price.

**EARLY-CLOSING MOVEMENT.—For the convenience of parties released from business by the Early-closing Movement, the ROYAL PANOPTICON will hereafter be open on SATURDAY EVENINGS, from Seven to Ten, as on other days. Admission, 1s.; Schools and Children, Half-price.**

**THE EMPEROR'S VISIT to the CRYSTAL PALACE** will at once suggest the necessity of being provided with one of CALLAGHAN'S CRYSTAL PALACE PERSPECTIVE GLASSES, so small, scarcely larger than your thumb, and yet so powerful as to show objects at the distance of a mile. Their extreme usefulness, at the Crystal Palace in particular, can be attested by hundreds of season-ticket Holders. Price 12s. each. May be had at Sams's, Royal Library, St. James's-street; Mitchell's, 33, Old Bond-street; Mr. Webster's, Hyde-street; Letts's, Royal Exchange; or the Booksellers on the London-bridge and other principal Railway Stations. Or will be sent post-free on receipt of Stamps or Money-order, payable to WILLIAM CALLAGHAN, Optician, 45, Great Russell-street, Bloomsbury, London.

**THIS IS WHAT WE SAID IN ENGLAND.**—Sung by George Tedder. Price 2s. Also, The Lord Raglan Polka, by Linton, 2s.; and The Allied Army Waltzes, by Shattock, 3s.

**NEW SONG—ON THE STARTLED EAR OF ENGLAND.**—suggested by the sudden death of the Emperor of Russia. Words by the Rev. G. S. MASTER. Music by Mrs. G. S. MASTER.—ADDISON and HOLLIER, 210, Regent-street.

**CONCERTINAS, FLUTINAS, ACCORDIONS.**—The largest and cheapest Assortment of any House in London. The above Instruments, Taught, Tuned, Repaired, or Exchanged on receipt of postage-stamp.—J. RUSSELL, 80, Goswell-street (opposite Compton-street), Clerkenwell, London.

**THE UNIVERSAL CIRCULATING MUSICAL LIBRARY.**—Subscription, Two Guineas per Annum. Subscribers annually presented with one guinea's worth of music." Daily News.—"Unrivalled for the variety and quality of its contents," Morning Post.—"The Catalogue, containing 42,000 works, necessary for every lover of music." Prospects forwarded on application to Messrs. G. SCHEURMANN and Co., Importers of Foreign Music and Publishers, 66, Newgate-street.

**ART-UNION of LONDON.—The ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING** to receive the Council's Report, and to distribute the amount subscribed for the purchase of Works of Art, will be held at the Theatre Royal Haymarket, by the kind permission of J. B. Buckstone, Esq., on TUESDAY, the 21st inst., at Eleven for Twelve o'clock; the Right Hon. Lord Montagu, President. The receipt for the current year will procure admission for member and George POCOCK, Hon. Secretary.

44, West Strand, April.

**EIGHT HOURS at the SEA-SIDE.—CHEAP EXCURSIONS** from LONDON to BRIGHTON and BACK the Same Day. First-class, 7s. 6d.; Second-class, 5s. 6d.; and Third-class, 3s. 6d. Every Sunday and Monday, from London-bridge Station, at Nine a.m.; returning from Brighton at 7.30 p.m. No luggage conveyed by these Trains. The Tickets are available only by the Excursion Trains. London Terminus.

FREDERICK SLIGHT, Secretary.

**HOUSES to be LET at WIVENHOE, near COLCHESTER,** and entered upon immediately. A good Family Detached House, late the residence of Phillips Hayes, Esq., Surgeon, within a distance of four miles from Colchester. It consists, on the ground floor, of a Dining and Breakfast room, Surgery (fitted) and Consulting room, large Kitchen, Brewhouse, &c.; four Bed, Drawing, Man and Maid Servants' rooms; also, a Bath-room, Water-closet, &c.; a large Garden, well planted with the choicest fruit trees; Stabling for three horses, spacious Cellars, Harness-room, Coal-house, &c. Also, a Detached House, known as WIVENHOE COTTAGE, late the residence of Hugh Green, Esq. It is very pleasantly situated, with a Garden in the front and back. It contains Three capital Cellars, Dining, Drawing, Breakfast, Three Bed, and Two Rooms for Servants, Two Kitchens, Water-closet, Pantry, and Store-rooms. Outbuildings, Coal-house, Fruit Closets, Brewhouse, with Three Cottages, Five Kitchens, Cellars, &c., Stabling for Two Horses, Kitchen, Dust-bin, &c. Both houses were supplied with excellent furniture. Both residences are near the Church, and all the Post-offices. Letters are delivered at eight o'clock in the morning. The journey to and from London can be accomplished in three hours. Both houses are very desirable for a Merchant wishing occasionally to spend some part of his time in the country. Inquiries of each mode may be made by Mr. JOHN G. CHAMBRALD, Wivenhoe.

## THE ROYAL EXCHANGE ASSURANCE CORPORATION.

(Established A.D. 1720, by Charter of King George the First.) Chief Office in the Royal Exchange, London; Branch, 23, Pall-mall. Fire, Life, and Marine Assurances may be effected with this Corporation on fair and liberal terms.

The Assured are exempt from liabilities of Partnership, and payment of their claims is guaranteed by a large invested Capital Stock. They enjoy the advantages of modern practice, with the stability of an office safely constituted under Royal Charter and special Act of Parliament, and tested by the experience of nearly a century and a half.

Prospectuses, with Tables of the Premiums and of the Bonuses declared in the Life Department, may be had on application.

JOHN A. HIGHAM, Actuary and Secretary.

## ROYAL MEDICAL BENEVOLENT COLLEGE.

NOTICE is hereby given, that the ELECTION of PENSIONERS and FOUNDATION SCHOLARS is appointed to take place in LONDON, on THURSDAY, the 19th of JULY next.

Candidates for Pensioners must be duly qualified Medical Men, who have been in practice in England or Wales five years from the date of their diploma; or the Widows of such.

Candidates for Foundation Scholarships must be the Sons of duly qualified Medical Men, or the Orphans of those deceased.

The Names of Candidates will not be received after the 1st of May next.

The Governors vote by ballot, either personally or by proxy, having votes in the proportion of One for every Guinea subscribed annually, every Ten Guineas given, every Twenty Guineas collected. Proxy papers, containing a list of the Candidates, with particulars relative to the Election, will be duly forwarded to every Governor one month previous.

Those Gentlemen whose Subscriptions are due will oblige by remitting them at their earliest convenience, as no Annual Governor whose subscription is in arrear will be entitled to vote.

Members of the Profession who may be desirous of having their Sons admitted as EXHIBITIONERS, are requested to make early application to the Council.

JOHN PROPERT, Treasurer.

## ROYAL MEDICAL BENEVOLENT COLLEGE.

At a MEETING of the COUNCIL of the Royal Medical Benevolent College, held on the 7th of March, 1855—Sir JOHN FORBES, M.D., in the Chair—the following resolution was unanimously adopted—

"That LADIES presenting a Donation of Five Guineas, or before the Opening of the College, on the 25th of June next, be constituted Life Governors."

The Council deeming the Opening of the Institution a suitable occasion on which to secure the moral and pecuniary support of a large body of persons friendly to the object of facilitating their access to the profession, voted that Ladies presenting Five Guineas on or before the time specified shall be constituted Life Governors.

It is not probable that another occasion of sufficient importance to justify a similar step will occur, the Council therefore hope that this exceptional resolution will bring a numerous body of supporters and contributors, whose interest in the Institution they are most anxious to conciliate.

LADIES availing themselves of this privilege will be entitled to a VOTE at the ELECTION of PENSIONERS and FOUNDATION SCHOLARS, which is appointed to take place on the 19th JULY next.

JOHN PROPERT, Treasurer.

Office, 37, Soho-square, April 5, 1855.

HEADMASTER—THOMAS H. KEY, A.M.

The School will REOPEN for New Pupils on TUESDAY, the 17th of APRIL, at a quarter-past Nine; for former Pupils, on WEDNESDAY, the 18th, at a quarter-past Nine, at which time all the boys must appear in their places without fail. The hours of attendance are from a quarter-past Nine to three-quarters past Three. The Afternoons of Wednesday and Saturday are devoted to Drawing. The subjects taught are Reading, Writing, the English, Latin, Greek, French, and German Languages. Ancient and English History, Geography (both Physical and Political), Arithmetic and Book-keeping, the Elements of Mathematics, of Natural Philosophy, and of Chemistry and Drawing.

For the Term, 26.

Prospectuses and further particulars may be obtained at the Office of the College.

CHARLES C. ATKINSON, Secretary.

Office, 37, Soho-square, April 5th, 1855.

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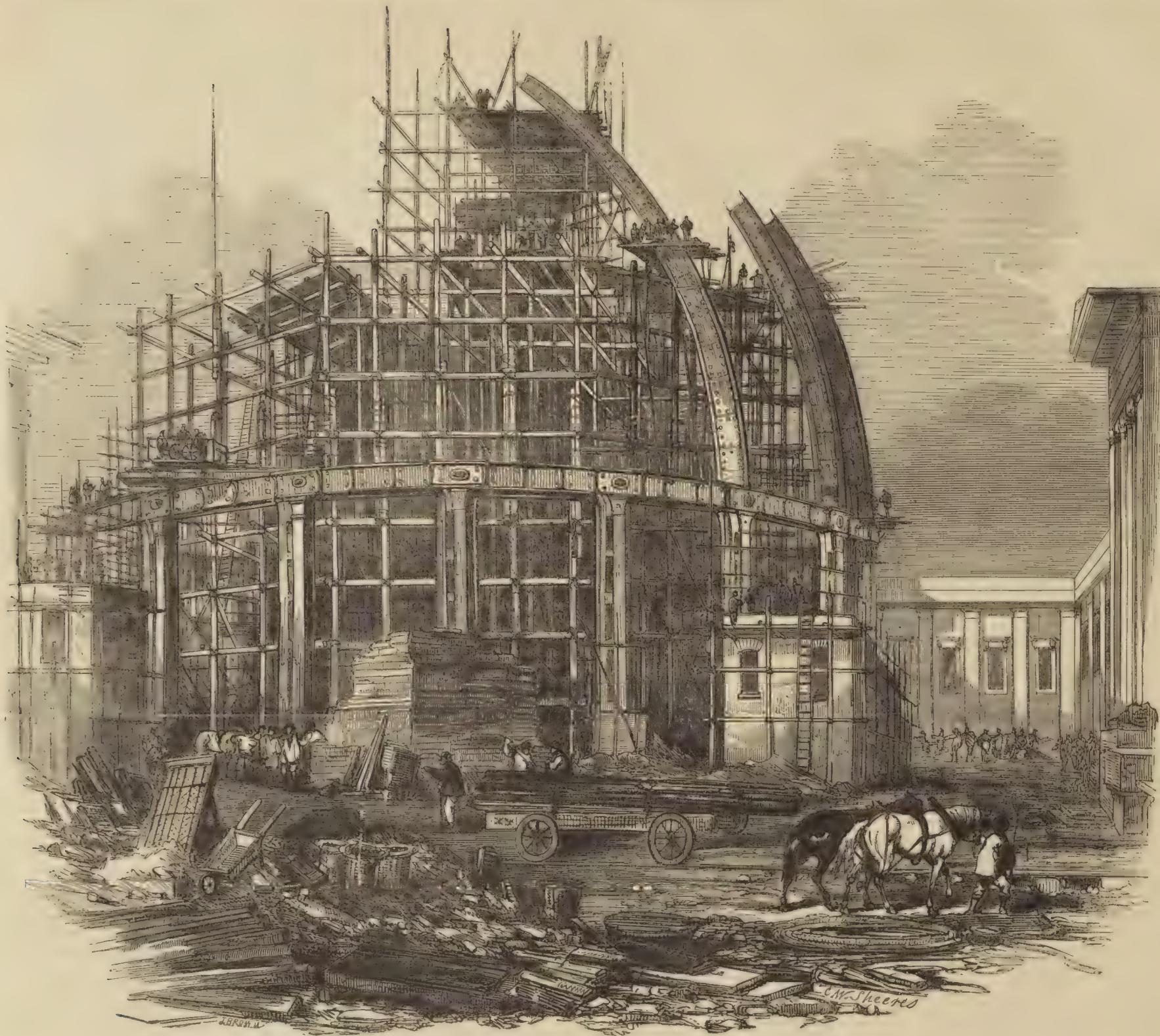
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THE NEW READING-ROOM AT THE BRITISH MUSEUM, IN COURSE OF CONSTRUCTION.

(Continued from page 350.)

rom a centre. About 2000 poles, of from 35 to 60 feet long, and 7 or 8 inches in diameter, have been required for the construction of this ingenious design.

The central framework will, however, form but the heart of the new Library; for the space round the Reading-room will be enclosed by a

brick wall, and lighted from the roof, this space being divided into compartments, the walls of which will be lined on each side with books. The new building will accommodate about 1,000,000 volumes, and will be entirely fireproof.

Valuable as is the Library of the Museum, its usefulness might be much enhanced if made available to a larger and increasing body of art and other

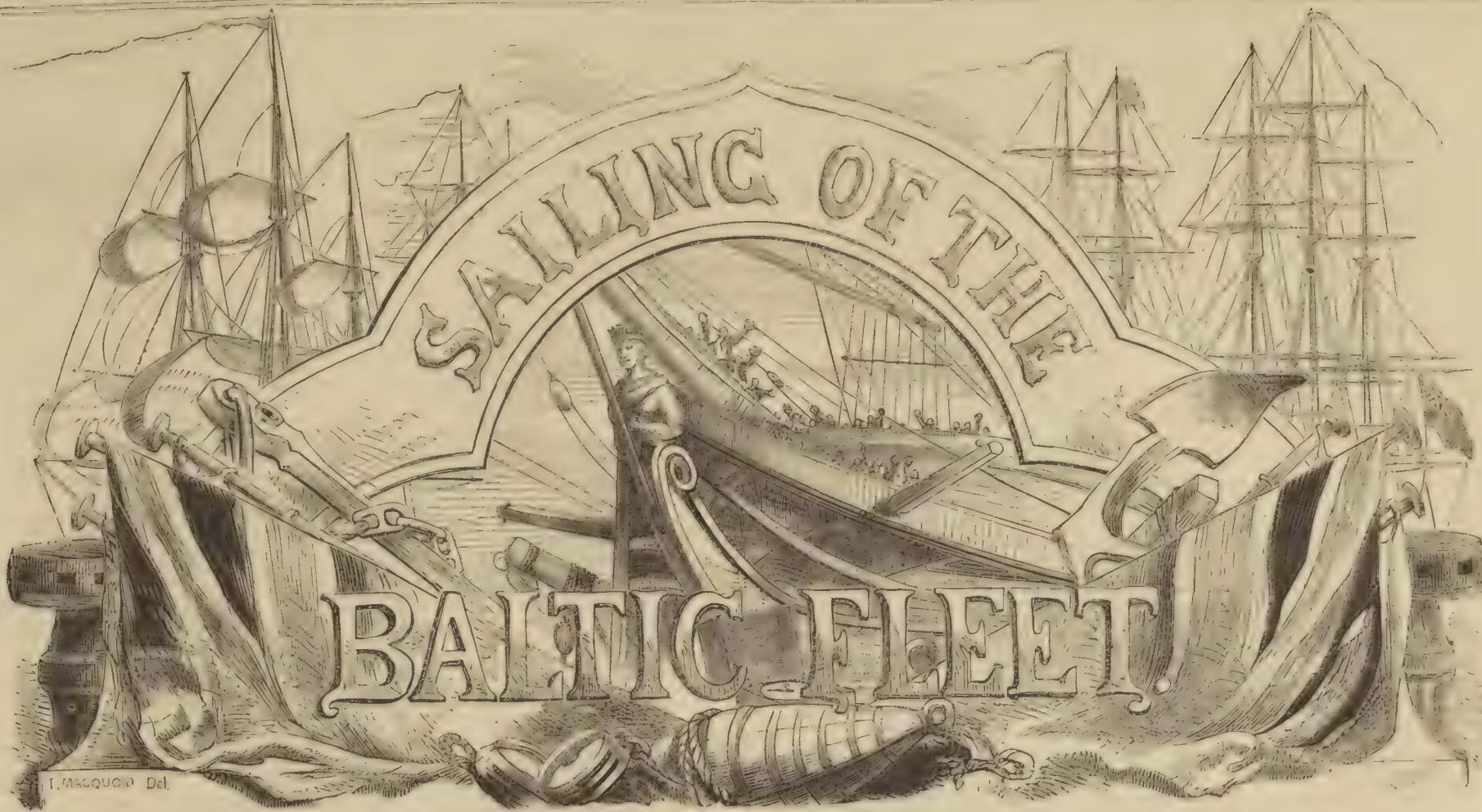
students, whose engagements during the day prevent them from using the rich materials which will be here stored; and the main building, with its million of volumes, might (in order to prevent danger from fire) be readily lighted from the outside.

Mr. Sydney Smirke is the architect of the new works; and Messrs Baker and Son are the contractors.



WAX CAST OF THE FACE OF NAPOLEON I.—(SEE PAGE 350.)





No. 737.]

SATURDAY, APRIL 14, 1855.

[VOL. XXVI.]

## DEPARTURE OF THE BALTIC FLEET.

Our readers are not likely to have forgotten the grand event of last year—the departure from Spithead of the noblest fleet that ever left the shores of this country, under the command of one of its most distinguished naval warriors. The morning of Saturday, the 11th of March, 1854, must be for ever “marked with white” in the calendar of every person who witnessed the glorious spectacle of that day. Everything that could avail to render a scene magnificent beyond description—almost beyond conception—a cloudless

sky, countless masses of spectators, the thunder of a thousand guns, and the presence of the Queen of England—conspired to make that day memorable—at least as a show. But the performance of that great fleet fell sadly short of its promise. With a leader victorious in many a fight, officers of well-proved gallantry, and ships having resources wholly unprecedented, our Baltic fleet of 1854 did little more than perform a minatory promenade in the Baltic Sea; at least, what it did perform was more of a negative than of a demonstrative kind. Whether it could have done more than imprison the fleet of Russia is a question which we

shall not attempt to discuss. We incline to the opinion that, under the circumstances, it served an excellent purpose, and could have done no more. In the event, let us hope that the Baltic fleet of the current year will form as strong a contrast to that of the past year as it certainly has done in the inauguration.

The Baltic Fleet of 1854, on its arrival in our seas, was dispersed in various directions, and the winter months were occupied in repairing the damages inflicted during the previous cruise. From the various harbours and dockyards in which the ships found refuge during the winter, they had been, for some weeks previously con-



THE BALTIC FLEET, 1855.—“THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON,” FLAG-SHIP OF REAR-ADmirAL THE HON. R. S. DUNDAS.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

centrating on Spithead, the great naval rendezvous. When the weather was deemed sufficiently auspicious, the Flying Squadron, as our readers are already aware, was sent forward, as it were, to feel the way. But people who bent their steps towards Southsea Beach, or seized the vantage ground offered by the batteries and houses overlooking Spithead, noticed little decrease in the number of ships, and certainly no falling off in the interest of the spectacle which varied the sameness of the sea between them and the sunny slopes of the Isle of Wight. There, during the latter days of March, in two long parallel lines, stretching from east to west, rode quietly at their anchors many of those noble ships, on whose giant strength we rely (under Providence) for the preservation of that greatness and glory which their precursors have won for us. During the week preceding the departure of the fleet, many visitors crowded into Portsmouth.

The first certain indications of sailing were given on the 31st ult., when signal was made by the flag-ship, "Prepare for Sea," all officers and sailors on shore were recalled to their respective ships, and all further leave prohibited. A general muster of crews took place, with a view to payment of wages before sailing. Exercise in gunnery practice was actively carried on; and it was evident to every looker-on that business, and that too of an engrossing kind, was to be the permanent order of the day. Steamers belonging to the local companies, and smaller craft of every description, were incessantly moving about, giving many thousands an opportunity of seeing the outsides at least of the floating castles; with peep now and then, through port-holes, at their internal economy. The space of water between the lines of the fleet became a nautical promenade, where you were tolerably certain to find any acquaintance whom you could not discover on shore. The thousands who made Spithead their rendezvous on the 2nd of this month were fortunate in having a fine day; at least, as fine as any day can be which has a strong infusion of east wind in it.

That a day like this should pass over without something in the shape of an accident to diversify the scene would be quite out of the ordinary course of things. Accordingly, early in the afternoon of Monday (2nd), a boat from the Gosport side, laden with provisions and people for the fleet, managed to capsize in the swell. This gave occasion to good deal of anxiety amongst the many who were looking on, and an excellent opportunity to a couple of man-of-war's boats to show the admirable way in which they were handled. The people who were shot out into the brine, to the number of eight, were all speedily fished out, and the provisions were rescued soon after. The wonder is that dozens of boats did not heel over, or get swamped. The escapes of some, full of women, too, were little short of miraculous.

"Queen's weather again!" was our exclamation, as we pulled up our window-blind on the morning of Tuesday the 3rd of this month: on this day, it was generally understood, and we believe intended, that the fleet should sail. Before noon it was evident that, if it did leave the anchorage, it must have been in the teeth of a gale of wind; and, as there was no special necessity for this, the order for sailing was countermanded. Bitterly bad though the weather was, much disappointment was felt by the excursion people who must return or pay some three pounds for a bed in Portsmouth, without any positive certainty of seeing the fleet depart on the following day. The greater number of excursionists were conveyed by the south-Western Railway; one train alone carrying seventeen hundred people. These people had little for their pains, for though steamers were seen passing to and fro, few save officials ventured out. But, rough though the weather was, and most uninviting to all ordinary mortals though the waters of the Solent were, we were not without a plurality of representatives at Spithead. To the very great convenience of our readers, the Artists and Correspondents of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS are ubiquitous; and the scenes which people travelled hundreds of miles to witness, and could not venture from the coffee-room firesides to look upon, will become familiar to every one who looks upon our pages. It may console those who returned on Tuesday to hear that they who remained to see the fleet depart, thanks to the fog, did not see the departure thereof. *Solenam misericordia habere dolori!*

As early as six o'clock on the morning of the 4th inst. the Port-Admiral Sir Thomas Cochrane, and the Board of Admiralty, went to Spithead in the *Vivid* steam-yacht, and gave the last orders to the fleet, after which the *Vivid* carried them to Scone Point, to inspect the new works of defence at that part of the Needles Channel. A dense fog shut out the fleet entirely from the shore, and it was not until noon that the spectre-like hulls became visible to the anxious eyes gazing seawards. It appeared uncertain in the early part of the day whether the fleet would move, but at nine a.m. the flag-ship the *Duke of Wellington* signalled to the *Geyser* and *Driver* to get up steam and prepare to weigh; at ten signal was made to the fleet to weigh the small bower anchor and raise screw propellers. The wind being fair, it was then known to be the Admiral's intention that the ships should put to sea under sail; and at half-past eleven he signalled to the paddle-vessels to get steam up at slow speed, while at the same time the dinner pennant was hoisted. At ten minutes after one signal was made "Prepare to weigh;" the fleet immediately hove short, and at half-past one signal was made "Weigh and form order of sailing as most convenient;"—with *Magicienne* and *Basilisk* in front to look out ahead of the Admiral, and the *Bulldog* and *Dragon* to take their places in the Admiral's wake. At two a general signal was made to "Rendezvous in the Downs in case of parting company." The ships got under way as most convenient (per signal), and when standing out towards the Nab appeared from that spot in the following order:—

PORT DIVISION.	GUNS.	STARBOARD DIVISION.	GUNS.
<i>Magicienne</i> , Fisher	16	<i>Basilisk</i> , Jenner	6
<i>Blenheim</i> , Hall	60	<i>James Watt</i> , Elliot	91
<i>Colossus</i> , Robinson	80	<i>Hogue</i> , Ramsay	60
<i>Duke of Wellington</i> (Flag)	131	<i>Edinburgh</i> , Hewlett	58
<i>Gordon</i> , Crawford	6	<i>Cesar</i> , Robt	91
<i>Cressy</i> , Warren	51	<i>Ajax</i> , Warden	60
<i>Bulldog</i> , Gordon	6	<i>Nile</i> , Mundy	91
<i>Majestic</i> , Hope	81	<i>Exmouth</i> (Flag)	91
<i>Royal George</i> , Codrington	102		

The first off was the *Blenheim* under courses, topsails, and topgallant sails, the *James Watt* following closely in her wake under topsails and topgallantsails, and evidently having the heels of her. At a wide interval came the *Colossus* and *Hogue*, the latter carrying fore and main-topmast and topgallant studding sails; which example was followed by the other 60-gun block-ships. Generally, the ships carried royals, which the *Blenheim* was first to hoist, when abreast of the *Pylades*. The Port Admiral, Sir Thomas Cochrane, went out of harbour in the *Vivid*, while the fleet was under way, and remained close to the *Duke of Wellington* for some time, eventually proceeding some way out with the ships. Had not the weather been so hazy the picture from the shore would have been magnificent, but the first of the fleet was out of sight before any movement was known ashore. About half-past three, however, the mist suddenly lifted, and a glimpse was then obtained of the fleet in full sail about six miles from port, between the Warner and the Nab. The last signal seen was now made out, flying from the mast-head of the *Duke*, and was evidently in consequence of the wind falling light; it was for the line-of-battle ships to "Get up steam at low speed." During the time these manoeuvres were being performed by the fleet, the splendid new two-decker *Orion*, 91, under full steam, was cruising about the roadstead, and trying her speed by the measured mile. She is a magnificent ship, and apparently of great power. The *Bellerophon*, 78, sailing ship, afforded a sad contrast to the outgoing fleet, as she was towed into harbour with sick and wounded invalids from the Crimea. There were but few vessels of any kind moving about the fleet, owing to the general impression that it would not leave before Thursday. Among those out we noticed the *Vivid*, the *Pigmy*, the *Bee*, the *Argus*, and the trim little Dutch war-schooner *Mercur*, which got under way and stood out abreast of the Commander-in-Chief's ship. The only casualty was with a schooner-yacht, the property of Mr. H. D. P. Cunningham, R.N., the inventor and patentee of the plan for reefing topsails from the deck, who got under way with the fleet to exhibit the utility of that important application. The yacht got under the bows of the two-decker *Majestic*, carried away both her topmasts, and obliged the line-of-battle ship to drop anchor. At five o'clock on Wednesday the van of the Baltic fleet was hull down from the extreme end of the land on the Portsmouth shore. On Thursday, at noon, it was in sight, off Dover. The weather was fine, with a light easterly breeze.

On Sunday morning the *Duke of Wellington*, 131, the flag-ship of Rear-Admiral Dundas, returned to Spithead from the Downs, to effect repairs of damages she sustained by getting into collision with the *George Hurlbut*, an American emigrant-ship, on the night of the 4th inst., about six hours after leaving that port. As soon as she was in sight a party of shipwrights and riggers were sent off to her in one of the dockyard tugs, and these were at work on her all day. Admiral Dundas did not return in her, having shifted his flag to the *Nile*, 91, screw. Both vessels sustained considerable injuries by this unfortunate collision. The *Duke of Wellington* had her foreyard carried away, together with her port swinging boom, the whole of the port and part of the main-chains, quarter-gallery, and hammock-nettings, breaking the stock of the best bower anchor, and driving the sheet anchor from its berth into the gangway. The shock was fearful, the merchant ship losing foretopmast, bowsprit, jibboom, cut-

water, &c. The accident is said to have arisen from the emigrant ship suddenly coming upon the fleet, which were steaming down Channel at an easy rate—the night being very fine, and the moon shining brightly. The *Duke* reports that the cause of the accident was a bad "look out" on board the merchantman, the man who was steering her not seeing his danger till he was close on the *Duke*, whose helm was put hard-a-port, steering south, to get out of the way. By this it was thought that the vessels would have passed, when the merchantman suddenly put the helm hard-a-starboard, running into the *Duke's* fore-chains.

It will be seen from the following lists of the Baltic fleet for 1854 and 1855, that the naval force which has been sent out this year is much stronger than the one which Sir Charles Napier commanded:—

#### THE BALTIC FLEET OF 1854.

Ships and Commanders.      Guns.      Men.      Horse-power.

Duke of Wellington, Capt. Gordon, flag of Vice-Admiral Sir Charles Napier, K.C.B.; Michael Seymour, Captain of the Fleet

Neptune, Capt. Hutton, Flag of Rear-Admiral J. II. Plummer

Edinburgh, Captain Hewlett, Flag of Rear-Admiral Chads, C.B.

Nile, Commodore Martin, C.B.

Royal George, Capt. Codrington, C.B.

St. Jean d'Arc, Capt. the Hon. H. Kepel

James Watt, Capt. George Elliot

Cesar, Capt. Robt

Princess Royal, Capt. Lord Clarence Paget

Majestic, Capt. James Hope, C.B.

Cressy, Capt. Warren

Prince Regent, Capt. H. Smith

Monarch, Captain Erskine

Cumberland, Captain Seymour

Hogue, Captain W. Ramsay

Blenheim, Captain the Hon. F. Pelham

Ajax, Captain Warden

Imperieuse, Captain Watson, C.B.

Euryalus, Captain Ramsey

Amphion, Captain A. C. Key

Leopard, Captain George Gillard

Odin, Captain Francis Scott

Valorous, Captain Buckle

Desperate, Captain D'Eyncourt

Penelope, Captain Caffin

Magicienne, Captain Fisher

St. George, Captain Eyres, C.B.

Archer, Captain Heathcote

Vulture, Captain Glasse

Dragon, Captain Willcox

Conduct, Captain Cumming

Cruiser, Commander the Hon. G. Douglas

Bulldog, Captain W. K. Hall

Driver, Commander the Hon. A. Cochrane

Rosamond, Commander Wodehouse

Gorgon, Commander Crocrot

Basilisk, Commander the Hon. H. Egerton

Heela, Captain W. H. Hall

Lightning, Captain B. J. Sullivan

Locus, Lieutenant-Commander Day

Alban, Commander Otter

Porcupine, Lieutenant G. M. Jackson

Volcane, Second Master Gilpin

Otter, Lieutenant W. A. J. Heath

Pigmy, Lieutenant Hunt

Cuckoo, Lieutenant A. G. E. Murray

Belleisle, Commander Hosken

Zephyr, Lieutenant Crawley

&c. &c. &c.

#### FLOATING BATTERIES, TO BE ADDED.

Guns.      Guns.      Guns.      Guns.

Glutton .. 16 | Aetna .. 16 | Meteor .. 16 | Thunder.. 16

Trusty .. .. 16

MORTAR VESSELS.

Blazer .. 1 | Hardy .. 1 | Manly .. 1 | Porcupine .. 1

Firm .. 1 | Havoc .. 1 | Mastiff .. 1 | Surly .. 1

GUN-BOATS.

Gleaner .. 3 | Biter .. 2 | Snap .. 2 | Hind .. 2

Pelter .. 3 | Boxer .. 2 | Jackdaw .. 2 | Starling .. 2

Ruby .. 3 | Clinker .. 2 | Jasper .. 2 | Stork .. 2

Pincher .. 3 | Cracker .. 2 | Jack .. 2 | Twinger .. 2

Teazer .. 3 | Dapper .. 2 | Magpie .. 2 | Thistle .. 2

Badger .. 3 | Fancy .. 2 | Redwing .. 2 | Weazel .. 2

Snapper .. 3 | Grinder .. 2 | Skylark .. 2 | Pigmy .. 2

Belleisle—Hospital ship, Commander Hosken.

Aeolus—Shell magazine. | Volage—Powder magazine.

In looking over these lists it will be observed that, whereas one division of last year's fleet was composed chiefly of sailing line-of-battle ships, in this year's fleet all are steamers. Nor did Sir Charles Napier possess any steam floating batteries or mortar vessels, nor even a gun-boat worthy of the name. Hardly any of the gun-boats are ready to sail, but now that the main body of the fleet has cleared off, all hands at the dockyards have been put to work upon them, and no doubt they will be in the Baltic as soon as there may be occasion for their services. It is expected that the five batteries will be launched in the Thames on or before Monday next, the 16th inst., when they will be instantly fitted and dispatched for service under the most active, energetic, and skilful Captains in the Royal Navy.

The fleet left the Downs on Monday. At five a.m. the signal was made to get steam up, and shorten in their cables, which was at once obeyed, and at ten minutes to six the signal to weigh was made. The *Nile* led the van, and the other ships in succession followed in two lines. The weather was rainy, and persons on shore could not discern the fleet very far.

At Deptford the newly-launched screw gun-vessels, by Pitcher, are being fitted with every dispatch; and at Woolwich the mortar vessels

have been taken in hand, and are being fitted with the "sling" mortar carriages, and also on the old bed principle, as fast as they can.

Portsmouth still has a very powerful force of ships left, notwithstanding the departure of the bulk of the Baltic expedition. There were on the 6th inst. the following:—

Ship and Commanders.	Guns.	Men.	Horse-power.	At Spithead
Neptune, Captain Hutton	120	970	—	
St. George, Captain Eyres, C.B.	120	970	—	"
Orion, Captain Erskine	91	650	600	"
Calcutta, Captain J. J. Stopford	81	750	—	"
Powerful, Captain Massie	81	750	—	"
Hastings, Captain Caffin	60	600	200	In harbour
Pembroke, Captain Seymour	60	600	200	In harbour
Retribution, Captain Fisher	28	330	400	In basin
Pylades, Captain D'Eyncourt	21	390	250	At Spithead
Malacca, Captain Farquhar	17	200	200	In dock
Odin, Captain Wilcox	16	270	560	In basin
Centaur, Captain Clifford	6	200	540	At Spithead
Cruiser, Com. the Hon. G. Douglas				

THE LARGE SHEET OF ENGRAVINGS  
GIVEN WITH THE PRESENT NUMBER.

THE ATTACK UPON SEBASTOPOL BY THE ALLIED  
FLEET AND ARMY.

THE large illustration represents the Attack of the Allied Fleet and Army upon Sebastopol. This sharp action has already been fully described in our Journal; the accompanying Engraving shows the heavy fire and respective positions of the ships, to which they were mostly taken by the small steamers. The fire of the troops is also partly shown.

HELSINGFORS AND SVEABORG.

(See the Panoramic View published with the present Number.)

THE city of Helsingfors, called in the Finland dialect Helsinki, is situated on a promontory called Estnas-Skatan, to the left of the island of Fer, at the bottom of the Gulf of Finland. It has an excellent harbour, of which the entrance is defended by the fortress of Sveaborg, while its houses are well built, and its general appearance is picturesque and imposing.

With respect to the foundation of Helsingfors it is stated that the Swedish King, Gustavus I, wishing to open up a commercial communication with Russia, caused a sea-port to be built on the isle of Sandhamn, which he proposed to people with emigrants from Raumo, Borga, Ecknäs, and other crowded towns. For some reason or other, to-day unknown, this project was soon afterwards abandoned; and the first stones of the new city were conveyed to a place near the waterfall of the Wanda, about five vers from the present site.

King John III. conferred several privileges on the city in the year 1569, and among others the right of trading with foreign lands. In 1591 Borga was deprived of many commercial facilities which were thenceforth vested exclusively in Helsingfors; and, in 1607, it was ordained that every stranger desirous of returning to his country, should pay into the municipal coffers a sum of money equivalent to a third part of his moveables. It was soon perceived that the little town of Helsingfors, however industrious and enterprising its inhabitants, could never attain any great importance so long as it occupied its then site.

Feeling the need of a more convenient harbour, and of more spacious municipal establishments, the Regency, acting for Queen Christine (Oct. 2nd, 1639), issued a proclamation to the effect that the city should be transferred to the place where it now stands.

Helsingfors was declared the capital of the Grand Duchy of Finland by an Imperial edict on the 27th of March, 1812. The advantages which ought naturally to have accrued from its splendid situation, and the numerous privileges it enjoys, were for a long time kept back by disasters of every description. The spirit of enterprise was balked on every side; the people became disheartened, and neglected their business. In 1713, on a day when the people were devoting themselves to prayers, the Divine Service was interrupted by the arrival of a Russian squadron. After several fruitless attempts to repel the invaders, the miserable inhabitants set fire to their houses, and retired in mournful groups to the ancient town. When the conflagration had subsided, the Russians landed, and kept possession of the city till the conclusion of the Peace of Nystadt, in 1721. For several months after that event Helsingfors was nearly deserted. One by one, however, the families returned to their old homes, which their enemies had, at any rate, rebuilt for them; and in less than twenty years the city began to assume an air of prosperity and importance. Just at this period, however, the Russians again molested them, and their peaceful streets were made the scene of rioting, debauchery, and murder. Among the earlier disasters of Helsingfors may be mentioned a conflagration in 1657, which almost entirely destroyed it; a famine occasioned by the bad harvest of 1695 and 1697, which decimated its inhabitants and impoverished its resources; and a pestilence in 1710, which visited every house.

A recent traveller (M. de Marmier), describing the capital of Finland, says—"Helsingfors contains a population of 16,000 inhabitants, and occupies as much space as many of the large towns of France. It is a gay and attractive city, learned in the hard lessons of adversity, and hopeful for the future; a city which has seen within a few years hundreds of beautiful buildings clustering around it and rising as if by magic. Its streets are broad, long, and regular; its houses are neat and well built; and many of its public edifices are such as might grace even the most splendid metropolis. It has, in fact, a symmetry and elegance about it such as few possess, and which almost justifies the supposition that it was built by one hand. Court and senate, university and barrack, observatory and bathing-house, promenade and gymnasium—all that which gives to a city an air of authority, of instruction, and of enjoyment—may be found here in beautiful combination."

FRESCOES ILLUSTRATIVE OF THE BRITISH POETS  
IN THE NEW HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT.

(See the Four Illustrations given with the present Number.)

Or the scheme of pictorial decoration for the New Houses of Parliament, not the least interesting and attractive department is that of the Frescoes illustrative of the works of British poets, in the corridor of the House of Peers. Passages from history and ideal representations of public virtues are grand subjects, no doubt, and very ably have they been dealt with by the various hands employed upon them in this palatial structure; but in their conditions they demand a severity of treatment setting bounds to the imagination of the artist. In the pages of the poets, on the contrary, the painter has free scope for his fancy and his pencil, both in the selection of his subjects and his mode of dealing with them; whilst, to the spectator, his work comes recommended by old and agreeable associations.

The four Frescoes of which we give Engravings, and which form part of an intended series, afford gratifying evidence of the sympathy of our artists with the sister art of poetry, and the amount of talent available amongst us for the production of works of the grand class in the difficult medium of fresco.

The first, by Mr. Cope, R.A., is a scene of deep pathos from the pages of the father of English poetry—"Griselda's First Trial of Patience: the Marquis causes her first Child to be taken from her." Nothing can be conceived more touching than the overwhelming grief exhibited in the prostrate figure of poor Griselda, whose averted look, closed eyes, and clasped hands denote the womanly tenderness and mild submissiveness of her nature. This touch of character, ably developed in the principal figure itself, is marked in a still stronger manner by contrast with the violence of surprise and horror displayed by the two attendant females. The group of the man carrying off the child is vigorous in treatment, and the glimpse we catch of the Marquis, looking through the casement, is sufficient to indicate the interest he takes in what is going forward. The style of architecture and of the background are appropriate to the early period the story refers to.

Mr. J. Morris in his Miltonian subject, "Satan touched by Ithuriel's spear, while whispering evil dreams to Eve," has assumed a task of no ordinary difficulty, in which, however, he has acquitted himself with success which does him honour. The figures of the angels are commanding and dignified, their expression benign and heavenly. Eve in an attitude of troubled repose, gives light to the foreground, and commands the principal share of interest. The figure of Satan coiled up, and only partially seen, is an ingenious conception. His face, also, is almost wholly concealed; but what is seen of it—that intent malicious eye, and the knitted brow—sufficiently identify the Genius of Evil.

St. Cecilia—whether in her prescriptive place in the Calendar, or as described in Dryden's celebrated Ode—has been a favourite subject with artists of all ages; and certainly few subjects exist better adapted for the display of varied, yet concentrated, interest—interest, also, of the most elevated and impassioned kind. Mr. Tenniel has treated his subject in a manner at once original and striking. Observing a severe simplicity in the attitude of the saint, as well as in her drapery, and the fall of her neglected hair, the life and sentiment of the character are displayed in the uplifted eye, the open mouth, denoting musical utterance, and the action of the hands roving solemnly over the keys of the instrument. Surrounded by an antique circular arch, her head occupies the centre of the picture, considerably above those of the surrounding group, who, in various attitudes and with various expression, betray how powerfully they are affected by the sublime strains.

Mr. Armitage's picture of the "Death of Marmion" (after Scott) is of the heroic character. The principal figures in the foreground are well conceived and ably executed. The distant glimpse of the battle field is very happily introduced: the bustle of the fray still survives, and calls forth the last latent energies of the expiring Knight, who still urges his gallant steed to do battle on that day.—

"Charge, Chester, charge! On, Stanley, on!"

Were the last words of Marmion.

THE PARIS UNIVERSAL EXHIBITION.

(From our Special Correspondent.)

PARIS, April 10.

The authorities have been very active since I last addressed you. Various alterations have been made in the general plans. Thus the two buildings—viz., the Palais de l'Industrie and the Machinery and Raw Produce Gallery—on the Cours la Reine, are to be connected by a covered passage. At the same time, this passage will afford a little additional exhibition space to the Parisians for the *Article Paris*. This additional space was much needed, for the rejections had struck some eminent firms worthy to enjoy room in any Industrial Exhibition. Prince Napoleon, as President of the Imperial Exhibition Commission, has been, also, very busy. He has set the Fine Art Committee to work, appointed the Jurors for the industrial parts, and limited the number of Jurors to decide upon the claims of the English section to forty. He has also made some important alterations in the disposition of the Great Hall of the Palace. At one end an immense phare was in course of construction, and for it Gerome had painted a series of allegorical figures, representing various sea-ports. This the Prince has removed. He has also directed the removal of some chocolate apparatus that was to have been prominent in the Great Hall. In these removals the Prince has shown good taste. The French have better things than model lighthouses and chocolate machines to place in the grand Hall of their Palais de l'Industrie. If he could also urge the workmen forward; place ten men where there are now only two; put the Company in the background as far as possible, and let the Commission take care of the national and international interests involved in this Universal Exhibition—his services would be cheerfully acknowledged by his country. His return to Paris has already had its effect upon the activity of the Imperial Commission.

Among other points recently debated between the Company, that desires to realise heavy dividends, and the Imperial Commission, that is anxious only to please the French people and foreign visitors—that of the admission price has been prominent. The Company desired high prices; the Commissioners were for low prices. The first assented to a five-franc day, a franc day, and the rest four-sous days; the latter desired a three-franc day, a ten-sous day, and the rest two-sous days. Englishmen, accustomed to pay for admission everywhere, would regard the Company's tariff as low enough; but the Commissioners, having to deal with a French public, accustomed to enter any public building free; to saunter into churches, museums, libraries, academy exhibitions, and industrial exhibitions free, knew that the Parisian population would not be content with a minimum of four sous entrance fee. Besides, the French people pay the shareholders four per cent on their invested capital, for the privilege of holding the national exhibitions in the Palace. Therefore, all power should reside in the hands of the Imperial Commissioners throughout the progress of this Universal Exhibition. The less a commercial company like that which has built the Palais de l'Industrie interferes with a national festival like the one about to begin, the better for the dignity of the French people. The Fine Art Building is governed exclusively by the Imperial Commission. It has been built by the French Government entirely. Here, therefore, the French people will measure the disposition of the Imperial Exhibition authorities towards them. Here, I am already informed, there will be free days. What will our Academicians say, when they learn that in Paris their works will be seen gratis!

The English Committee, in the Rue de Cirque, have requested me, through your columns, to inform the English public that letters addressed to the Poste Restante in their office should be prepaid. It is obvious that the Committee cannot undertake to keep an account current with any English exhibitor for postage. Besides, an unpaid letter is charged the old tariff of eightpence, whereas fourpence prepaid franks it. Other conveniences for exhibitors have been prepared by the Committee, headed by Mr. Cole. On the hot summer days the exhibitors' room will open upon a garden, where a tent is to be erected upon the lawn for their enjoyment. The upper rooms of the house—all splendidly decorated—are appropriated to various English committees of importance.

Not the least remarkable feature of the Exhibition-time in Paris will be the immense establishments now in course of construction, where counters are at the disposal of the rejected applicants for space, or for exhibitors who wish to sell articles similar to those they have in the Palais de l'Industrie. One of these establishments advertises fifteen hundred counters to let.

It may interest your readers to learn that the English engravings and water-colour paintings bid fair to be the first contributions arranged in the Fine Art Building. When I was last in the galleries there were not more than five or six French paintings upon the walls; but then many of these paintings will each take the side of an apartment. Horace Vernet's acres of canvas from Versailles; Gerome's colossal picture painted for the French Government; a portrait of the present Emperor five or six times the size of life; a colossal eagle; colossal groups of sculpture—everything immense, if not great. This passion for broad canvas reigns supreme in Paris just now. Every artist thinks that the more canvas he can set up the better chance he has of sailing down to posterity. The English paintings will generally be regarded as microscopic studies by the French. Here, a portrait only the size of life is a miniature.

For the 1st of May little, however, will be finished. Very energetic contractors are offering to prepare cases for the 20th of next month. Still, skilfully-disposed drapery, striking sculpture in the Great Hall, an organ or two (I hear a fine one is to be contributed from England), perhaps some fountains, all kinds of gay fabrics temptingly disposed, will enable the Imperial Commissioners to present to visitors a fine picture for the opening day. We may all remember the state of the Great Exhibition on the 1st of May, 1851. Still the same excuses cannot be made in the present instance. Two years have been occupied upon the building, two years (or nearly this extent of time) have elapsed since the decree was published calling foreign exhibitors to Paris this spring. The time has been ample, both for exhibitors and Exhibition authorities; and it is to be regretted that so much has been driven off to the last moment. Even the architectural plans have suffered changes within six weeks of the opening day. If a connecting gallery be wanted, this want was as apparent six months ago as it is now.

But there is no good to be gained from an analysis of what might have done. The business still to be achieved, however, should be set about methodically and seriously; and I should be glad to see the French take a lesson on these points from our English Committee. The advanced state of all the English sections, in fact, excites no little jealousy.

STATUE OF LORD JEROME.—The pedestal is now being put up in the Hall of the Knights of the Order of the Holy Sepulchre, in the Rue de la Paix, M.R. 1. The statue will occupy the spot of the bust of the Duke of Wellington, which was removed to the removal of the old benches occupied by the Knights of the Order. The pedestal is to be built of the present court-rooms of the Order of the Holy Sepulchre, and the bust of the Duke of Wellington is to be placed in the hall of the Knights of the Order.

LOWING SHIPS' BOATS.—After the last meeting of the Institution of Civil Engineers, Mr. Armitage, of the Royal Engineers, introduced a model of a boat which he had constructed for the purpose of saving lives at sea. The boat is to be suspended from a pulley, having the ship's cable attached to it, and between which the lower end passes in such a manner as to have a tight grip upon them, and yet so that, by letting all loose, the boat will run out in such a manner as to let the boat down on the water, on an even keel and quite free from the ship. The lowering is to be accomplished by a man sitting in the boat, and, though with a full load, the descent can be checked at any point. It is evident that, by this system, the disastrous effects of undue haste in rushing to the boats, in cases of danger, can be completely elminated.

EPIPOME OF NEWS—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

A grand installation of the Garter will be held on Wednesday next, when the Queen will confer the order on the Emperor of the French.

The Dowager Empress of Russia is about to visit Berlin.

Earl Granville, Lord President, and the Countess Granville, left London on Saturday last for Paris.

A rumour prevails in Vienna that the Emperor Napoleon is to visit that city after his visit to London; also, that the Emperor Francis Joseph and Queen Victoria will at the same time visit his Majesty at Paris during the Exhibition.

The Empress of the French has made a present to the Empress of Austria of a lace dress, which will be seen at the Exhibition of Paris, and the pattern of which was designed by the Empress Eugenie herself. The value of this dress is estimated at 200,000.

The Emperor of Russia remitted through the Swedish Embassy a sum sufficient to give every prisoner in the Lewes gaol £1. each for hot-cross buns.

General Sir John Burgoyne, G.C.B., arrived at Vienna on Saturday last.

A letter from St. Petersburg states that the Emperor Alexander intends to visit Helsingfors, with his brother Nicholas, before the commencement of operations in the Baltic.

The health of Lord Haddo has been so much improved by the climate of Egypt as to encourage the expectation that his Lordship will be able to attend to his Parliamentary duties in the course of next month.

The King of Prussia intends shortly to go to Konigsberg, to be present at the jubilee about to be celebrated in commemoration of the foundation of that city, just 600 years ago, by King Ottokar. As the precise day on which it took place in the year 1255 is not known, the King will himself appoint the day for the celebration of the jubilee.

The Lord Chancellor will receive the Judges, Queen's Counsel, &c., on Monday next, the first day of Easter Term, at his Lordship's residence in Upper Brook-street.

His Excellency the Baron Brunnow, late representative of Russia at the Court of St. James's, still continues at St. Petersburg. The Baroness and Mdlle. Brunnow are residing at Darmstadt.

A religious ceremony took place on Good Friday in the Chapel of the Tuilleries. A few minutes before the service commenced the Emperor and Empress entered, habited in black; the Empress wore the Spanish costume. Except at the sermon the Emperor and Empress remained kneeling during the service, which lasted about an hour.

The Duke and Duchess de Brabant were to leave Alexandria on the 28th ult. for Jaffa, whence, after visiting Jerusalem, they were to return to Europe.

The King of Sardinia has been indisposed for some days past, and, after being subjected to the usual treatment of bleeding several times, has now quite recovered.

The installation of Mr. Layard, M.P., as Lord Rector of the University of Aberdeen, took place on the 5th inst.

Letters from Naples state that Cardinal Wiseman is to be appointed Librarian of the Vatican, in the place of Cardinal Mai.

The *Invalid Russe* contains an account of a visit made by the Emperor to the military schools, in which his Majesty took formal leave of the pupils whom he had directed and commanded for a period of six years.

The Portuguese Minister of Finance having resorted to the expedient of appointing a committee of noble ladies to raise a loan of £12,000 to redeem the Opera-house for the majority of Don Pedro, September next, the Lisbon capitalists were unable to resist such powerful applicants.

The vacant Under-Secretaryship of the Colonial Department, which necessarily remained open until the bill for regulating the number of Secretaries of State and Under-Secretaries became law, has been confided to Mr. John Ball, M.P. for Carlow.

A letter from Berlin, of the 4th inst., positively denies that Dr. Mandt, physician to the late Emperor Nicholas, has been obliged to leave St. Petersburg secretly. He is still there, the letter says, and in the same situation as before.

At Weimar, counterfeit autographs of Schiller have been made use of in an audacious manner. The heirs of the poet are amongst the dupes.

The name of the Rev. Dr. Stanford is removed from the list of the Viceregal Chaplains, some person having communicated to Lord Carlisle that the rev. gentleman had been dismissed as Chaplain to the North Dublin workhouse for proselytising tendencies.

A Swedish savant, Professor Edlund, of the Royal Academy of Sciences, has succeeded in making an improvement in the construction of the electric telegraph apparatus, by which it becomes possible to send messages by the same wire simultaneously in two opposite directions.

Augustus Casar Dodge, Senator from Iowa, has been nominated by the American President, and confirmed by the Senate, as Minister to Spain, rice Soule resigned, and Breckinridge declined.

Captain Casale, director of the Royal stables at Turin, has returned from Egypt with four magnificent Arab horses, two of which are a present from Abbas Pacha, son of the late Viceroy, to the King of Sardinia.

The Committee of the Napier Testimonial Fund have decided on the erection in London of a bronze statue of the gallant General. The height of the statue is to be twelve feet, on a granite pedestal eighteen feet high.

The French Academy, at its last sitting, elected the Duke de Noailles, Director, and the Bishop of Orleans, Chancellor, for the present year.

The Governor-General of India has raised the salary of Dr. O'Shaughnessy, the superintendent of electric telegraphs in India, to £3600 per annum.

On the 31st of December last there were 35,960 vessels belonging to the several ports of the United Kingdom: the tonnage was 5,043,270, and the number of men employed 266,491.

A magnificent antique statue, in red marble, was purchased for the British Museum at the sale of M. Collet's collection at Paris. Ex-King Jerome attempted to become its purchaser, in order that he might present it to the Museum of the Louvre.

The Washington papers announce a default to the extent of 100,000 dollars made by a Government official. The delinquent was Governor Price, of New Jersey.

On Tuesday last the Bishop of Ripon preached in the chapel connected with the Leeds Borough Gaol; to the prisoners, who joined heartily in the service.

The Rev. J. Coleridge Patteson, M.A., Fellow of Merton College, Oxford (son of Sir J. Patteson), has been appointed a missionary for New Zealand.

A large addition has been made to the public park at Holyrood, by embracing within it a field of about thirteen acres, situated north of the Duke's Walk, and east of the ground used for military exercise and parade.

It is stated by a writer in the *Boston Transcript* that nearly a million of dollars has accumulated in the treasury of Harvard University.

A county meeting is to be held at the Shire-hall, Bedford, on the 28th inst., to consider the subject of establishing a juvenile reformatory institution.

Letters from Athens contain deplorable accounts of the progress of brigandage in various parts of Greece.

A second free library and museum, including a reading-room, are about to be established in the large building in the Queen's-park, Manchester.

Russian intrigue in Brussels has entirely failed. The idea of establishing a paper to represent Russian views in that city



MEN-OF-WAR'S MEN LEAVING PORTSMOUTH FOR THE BALTIC FLEET.



WOMEN LEAVING "THE HARD," PORTSEA, FOR THE BALTIC FLEET.

## THE COMMON HARD.

Few people not born or bred in the locality imagine that they are out of Portsmouth proper when standing on the Common Hard; but the Common Hard is in Portssea: the history of the Common Hard is, nevertheless, to all intents and purposes, the history of Portsmouth. Now, the history of this place, important and interesting though it undoubtedly is, is not an excitation in which we propose at present to indulge. It is quite beside our purpose to discuss whether the first Henry or he of the lion heart was the earlier patron of Portsmouth. The Common Hard is a patent fact, and a great one, in its own way; and its present and every-day condition is the matter we have to deal with. Speaking by the card, this spot—where the *venue* of many a naval anecdote is placed, wherever two men-of-war's men meet on any part of the habitable globe—is bounded on the north by the Dockyard-gates; on the south, by a mass of building, devoted to artillery stores; on the east, by a row of houses of an exceedingly diversified appearance, consecrated to Ceres and Bacchus—chiefly to the latter (they are figured in our illustration of the embarkation of the Admiral); and on the west by salt-water. Standing with your back towards the houses, you have the *pavé* before you, and, sloping down from this to the water's edge, you have, strictly speaking, "the Hard"—a patch of shingle, covered at high water with the said water, and at low water with sailors of all dimensions, and their friends. They who delight not in crowds had better avoid this place, on the arrival or departure of a fleet; but at any time one will be rewarded for a visit to the Hard, by a sight of the glorious old *Victory*, Nelson's own ship—the happy-named—the same on whose quarter-deck he fell death-wounded, and in whose cockpit he gave forth his last breath for the land he loved so well.

## ANCIENT AND MODERN WARFARE.

We have been assured, upon the authority of our venerable friend Robert Owen, that the Millennium of Peace and Brotherhood among all the Civilised Nations of the Earth will take place about the month of May next. We sincerely hope his prediction may be verified; but there are, we fear, much stronger grounds for believing that by that time the war now raging will have swept into its terrible vortex half the great States of Europe, and that the long interval of peace we have enjoyed may be followed by a protracted, a bloody, and an expensive war. And, after all, war is the normal condition of man, although little of its calamities have been experienced by the present generation till within the last few months. It occupies the most prominent place in the history of the world; and from the time man first came upon the earth, his hand has been against his fellow; so that we may take the firstborn of Adam as the original type of the tyrant and murderer. It may not be uninteresting to trace how this system of warfare and antagonism was carried on from the most remote antiquity, before the lights of science and modern invention and improvements showed us how to effect the greatest possible amount of destruction in the smallest space of time.

Clubs and stones were undoubtedly the first offensive weapons, and things to give the latter force were then added. The use of the bow is referred to in the 21st chapter of Genesis, for we find it stated of Ishmael, that "God was with the lad and he grew and dwelt in the wilderness, and became an archer." This is probably the earliest reference to the use of any regularly-constructed offensive weapon, as the date of this notice is supposed to have been about 1900 years before the birth of Christ, or nearly 4000 years ago. Many subsequent passages attest the continued use of the bow. The overthrow of Saul was owing to the Philistine archers; and Israel, when blessing his sons, says of Joseph, "The archers have sorely grieved him, and shot at him and hated him." The companies that came to David at Ziklag were armed with bows, and could use the right hand and the left in hurling stones, and shooting arrows out of a bow. The Saracens, who were of the posterity of Ishmael, never set their hands to a plough, but got their living by the bow, and became very expert in its use. The Hiddekel, one of the four rivers named in Genesis, now called the Tigris, was named Teer by the ancient Persians, which signifies an arrow. It was so named either from the rapidity of its course, or arrows were named after it, and the inference in this case would be that arrows were used 4000 years before the Christian era. The Grecians derived their knowledge of the bow from the Scythians, and its use was considered the highest department of education. The arrows used were reeds or light wood, tipped with bone, or stone, or metal; they were barbed, and at times dipped in poison; but this practice was more frequent among barbarous nations. The Persian, Turkish, and Tartar bows resembled the Scythian in form, and they required considerable strength and dexterity in using them. It is singular that bows of a similar form, made of wood, should have been found among the Esquimaux Indians.

In England the use of the bow was once carried to a degree of perfection that has never been rivalled. The Anglo-Saxons and Danes were acquainted with it from a very early period, although we are probably indebted to the Normans for its use as a military weapon. Our chroniclers do not mention archery till the death of Richard I., who was killed by an arrow shot from a cross-bow, while besieging the Castle of Chalons. The death of William Rufus, some years previously, was caused by an arrow discharged from the ordinary long-bow, which glanced from a tree and killed the monarch. Under Edward III., the glory of the long-bow was in its zenith. At the battle of Cressy, 1346, a shower of rain slackened the strings of the Genoese cross-bows, and rendered them unserviceable, while the English, being carefully covered up, did great execution. This and the victory of Poitiers, ten years later, was ascribed to the English archers. At the decisive battle of Halidon-hill, against the Scots, in 1302, the armour of the Earl of Douglas, which was of the most perfect temper, was penetrated in five places—neither sword nor lance was used by the English, the battle was decided by the archers; and it was to them that the victory of Agincourt (1415) was also owing. In the reigns of Henry VII. and Henry VIII., the use of the cross-bow was prohibited by Acts of Parliament, while that of the long-bow was encouraged down to the time of Charles I. But although the English collectively were celebrated as archers, we have no such individual instances of dexterity as that recorded of William Tell: it is almost a pity to destroy the illusion of the romance, but it is borrowed from a Danish writer of the twelfth century, who ascribes the feat to Toko, a Dane. The tyrant Domitian was said to be so expert that he could shoot arrows from a great distance between the fingers of a slave's hand. The extreme range of an English bow is said to have been 600 yards; but the greatest range in modern times has been 300 and 400 yards. The Turkish Ambassador, some years since, in presence of the Toxophilite Society, sent an arrow from a horn bow 400 yards. Contemporary writers tell us that Robin Hood could shoot an arrow a measured mile; but Firdausi (the Homer of Persia) tells a story that far exceeds this. When peace was made with the Scythian invader, one of the articles was, that the former should only have as much land as one of the Persian soldiers could shoot an arrow over. A hero ascended a lofty mountain near Tehran and shot an arrow to the banks of the Oxus, a distance of between 500 and 600 miles! The modern suggestion is, that it must have been a golden-headed arrow.

The cross-bow has been known for about 700 years, but it was, at first, confined to the defence of fortified places and for sea-fights. It was introduced into France by the first Crusaders, and was used in the time of Louis le Gros, 1108. William the Conqueror used the cross-bow in his army at the battle of Hastings; and its effects were some time afterwards considered so fatal and cruel that its use was actually forbidden by the second Council of Lateran, in 1139, as hateful to God and unfit to be employed among Christians, and its continued use made churchmen regard the death of Richard I. by one of them as a judgment from heaven. The cross-bow kept its footing in our armies, notwithstanding the anathema, till 1572, when Queen Elizabeth undertook to furnish Charles IX. with 6000 men armed partly with long-bows and partly with cross-bows. An ordinary cross-bow would kill *point-blank* at sixty yards; but, if elevated, at more than double the distance. The Cingalese have to this day a very ingenious one, which strings itself and discharges two arrows at a time until twelve, the number in the magazine, have been fired off.

But at a much more remote period the bow and sling gave rise to other warlike combinations. In Deuteronomy, 1451 years before Christ, trees, we learn, were cut down "to build bulwarks against the city until it be subdued;" and Uzziah made in Jerusalem "engines invented by cunning men to be upon the towers and upon the bulwarks to shoot arrows and great stones withal." According to Josephus, Uzziah was the inven-

tor of this species of artillery. The primitive Grecians were unacquainted with the use of walls, and led a wandering life, their possessions remaining open to every invader. In this unsettled state they remained for several ages, till some superior minds suggested the idea of walls for protection. Within walls they were comparatively safe, because if it were not so, such a town as Troy could not have held out for ten years against 10,000 besiegers.

It is probable that the *Aries*, or battering-ram, was the earliest, as it is the simplest, of ancient engines. The name is derived from its being usually armed at the striking end with iron in the form of a ram's head. Some persons have suggested that the Walls of Jericho were beaten down by this engine, the ram's horns being the horns of the battering-ram. The simplest form was a beam or mast, propelled by the united efforts of a number of men. When larger, it was suspended in a frame and worked by ropes and handles. Another sort was mounted on wheels, enclosed with hurdles and covered with raw hides to protect the soldiers while working. Some of these were of an enormous size. Vitruvius says, one used in the Parthian war was 120 feet long, being in fact composed of the largest trees hooped together with iron bands, and having iron heads of immense weight bolted to them. Josephus says, there was no tower so strong or wall so thick as to resist the repeated assaults of these powerful machines. It was not unusual to have fifteen hundred men working one of these engines.

Various stratagems were resorted to by the besieged to elude their effects—fire, stones, and missiles of every description were showered upon them. Sacks filled with chaff and wool were lowered down from the walls to deaden the effects of the blow—they were overthrown at times by undermining the foundations, and ropes were cut by long scythes fastened to poles; and, if no hope remained of defending the wall, a new one was raised within. The great defect of these ancient and formidable-looking machines was their small momentum or velocity. A very small body, if only moving with sufficient rapidity, may strike as forcible a blow as a very large one moving slowly; and this may be illustrated by the theory of projectiles, by which it is demonstrated that a cannon-ball weighing 3 lbs., moving 1000 feet in a second, will produce as destructive effects as one weighing 50 lbs., which only moves 90 feet in a second. According to a French writer (Desaguliers), one of the largest battering-rams we read of in antiquity, weighing 18 tons, 180 feet long, and moved by 1000 men, would only be equal in effect to that of a 36-lb. iron ball fired from a cannon at point-blank distance. It may be assumed, then, that the force of a cannon-ball to make a breach in walls must far exceed that of the ancient *Aries*; but the momentum or impetus by which the latter communicated a shock to the whole building was far greater than the force of cannon-balls; and its power to shake or overturn walls and demolish buildings was much superior to that which is exerted by our modern artillery.

The ram was frequently used even in the fourteenth century; and Sir C. Wren found nothing superior to it for demolishing the walls of old St. Paul's previously to rebuilding it. Dionysius used the ram at the sieges of Rhegium and Moytua, in the years 370 and 388 B.C. The next memorable instance is the siege of Rhodes, by Demetrius Polycrates, in the year 303 B.C., when he brought forward a variety of engines, employing in their management 30,000 men; but the siege was raised after continuing a whole year. Hannibal used engines at the siege of Saguntum, in 219 B.C.; and about the same time Marcellus laid siege to Syracuse. Archimedes was there at the time; and Marcellus having brought forward an amazing engine in eight galleys, the great mathematician destroyed it by discharging stones of enormous weight upon it, when it was at a considerable distance from the walls. He also used balistes, scorpions, and a kind of crane lowered by a lever, which hoisted the Roman vessels by the prow and plunged them to the bottom of the sea. At the battle of Cremona the Fifteenth Legion used an extraordinary engine with dreadful execution against the troops of Vespasian. It was a ballista of great size, which discharged stones of weight sufficient to crush whole ranks at once. Inevitable ruin must have ensued if two soldiers had not approached the engine unperceived, and cut the ropes and springs. The Romans had various batteries of these machines; and they had 300 catapultae and 40 balistes at the siege of Jerusalem. Beams of wood, and lances twelve cubits long, and stones 300 or 400 pounds weight were thrown by the latter; and as early as the Battle of Hastings they were used in this country. Under General Melville a ballista was used at the siege of Gibraltar for the purpose of casting stones at the Spaniards, just over the edge of a rock, where shells could not reach them.

The discovery of gunpowder is of a very remote antiquity, but its practical application to the purpose of war is of comparatively recent date. Bacon and Berthold Schwartz have been named as its discoverers; but Hahnel, the translator, of the Gentoo code, finds fire-arms, gunpowder, and cannon mentioned therein; and this code is supposed by some persons to be coeval with Moses. Philostratus, in his Life of Appolinus Tyaneus, written 1600 years ago, refers to a people of India, who, at the time of the invasion of Alexander, used storms of lightning and thunderbolts to repel the enemy from their walls. In China its composition was known from the most remote antiquity; and the Arabs employed it at the siege of Mecca in 630. It was the same people who used it in their wars with the Spaniards, and in this way it was introduced into Europe. It is urged that gunpowder has given civilised nations a decided superiority over barbarous ones, by intimately connecting the progress of science with improvements in war; and, in our own day, however paradoxical it may appear, it has been held that whatever increases the powers of destruction in war is infinitely advantageous to the cause of humanity.

On the introduction of artillery, custom made many prefer the ancient engines of war. The construction of the new weapons was so clumsy and imperfect, and their results so uncertain, that there was a general aversion to them as being contrary to humanity, and calculated to extinguish military bravery in the breasts of the chivalrous knights of the period. John Barbour, Archdeacon of Aberdeen, is the first who refers to cannon in our country; and he says that "crakys of war" were first used by Edward III. in his campaign against the Scots, 1327. The English subsequently used them at the battle of Cressy in 1346. In 1373 when the English unsuccessfully besieged St. Malo, 400 cannon are said to have been employed; but they are supposed to have been hand cannon, or culverins, carried by two men. In the reign of Henry V. orders were given to make 7000 round stones in the quarries of Maidstone, to be used for cannon of different sizes. The cannon employed by Mahomet II. at the Siege of Constantinople were formed of bars of iron hooped together lengthways with iron rings. They were used for throwing immense masses of stone, some of which it was said weighed 1200 lbs. To this day the Turks exhibit a partiality for very large artillery; and the Dardanelles is protected by cannon, some of which throw stone balls weighing 800 or 1000 lbs. Urban, a Dane, made a gun at that early period which cast a stone 600 lbs. weight, but, after a few discharges, it burst. All the ancient cannon were unwieldy, and could only be fired a few times in the course of a day. Some of them were of the enormous length of 20 feet. We have ourselves the long 60-pounder at Dover Castle, called "Queen Elizabeth's pocket pistol;" and at Edinburgh Castle the curious piece of artillery termed "Mons Meg," to which many interesting traditions are attached. The largest piece of ordnance known in modern times was the monster mortar cast at Liège, and used at the siege of Antwerp in 1832. Its effects did not equal the expectations entertained of it; and, when making some experiments with it afterwards before Louis Philippe, it burst. Cannon have been made of wood, leather, coils of rope, and even of ice. In 1740 several were cut out of the solid ice at St. Petersburg, and fired repeatedly with ice bullets without bursting. The heaviest existing piece of ordnance is the Byapo gun in India, which weighs forty-two tons. The greatest modern improvement in cannon is the removing some of the metal from the portion of the gun before the trunnions, and adding it to the breech, increasing the power to recoil.

Hannibal's famous engines of war were first used in the year 215, when he besieged the Roman camp at Lilybaeum. The engines of the Gauls were of various kinds, and were directed by the skill of their leaders, of whom the greater part were Gauls themselves. The Gauls were a race of men who had been accustomed to war from their earliest childhood. Their leaders were skilful in the art of war, and their soldiers were bold and valiant. When Hannibal came to the Roman camp he saw that the Gauls had engines of war which were far superior to those of the Romans. He therefore sent messengers to the Gauls, telling them that if they would give up their engines of war he would give them a share of the spoil. The Gauls agreed to this, and Hannibal sent his engineers to the Roman camp to examine the engines. They found that the Gauls had engines of war which were far superior to those of the Romans. 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## NOTES OF THE WEEK.

The Easter holidays have been, so far, holidays indeed. Little news on any subject has come to us from either of the two great centres of interest. The Vienna Congress is at a stand-still, waiting the arrival of the Turkish Plenipotentiary and of the Czar's final orders to Prince Gortschakoff and M. de Titoff; and Lord Raglan has for the time intermitted the series of his meteorological despatches. All, however, leads us to consider this unusual quiet as a lull before a storm; and to calculate that in the course of the next week we shall learn tidings, both from the seats of War and Conference, of greater importance than any that the electric wires have flashed across Europe for many a long day. In the first place—without troubling the telegraph—we shall know on the 20th how the Chancellor of the Exchequer means to raise the wind: whether a loan will be thought necessary, or whether we shall be able to balance our expenditure with our income. The City rather believes in a loan, though not apparently with very great confidence. The West-end Clubblites are much more certain of its necessity, perhaps because with so many of the members of these establishments a state of borrowing appears the normal condition of mankind. Some few plain people, on the other hand, look to the statements as to the position of the national ledger already made by both past and present Chancellors, and by the Secretary of the Treasury, and ask themselves if, with a deficiency of less than three millions, it is *tant* that the country should borrow money in open market. They say this would be like a man with £50,000 a year mortgaging his estate for £1000. Without putting much faith in the perfectibility of Government offices or officials, one may reasonably hope that there will be somewhat less mismanagement and money wasted than last year; so that the prosecution of the war, if not less, may not cost us more. Besides, to speak in the theatrical phrase, most of the "properties" of our naval and military drama are procured and paid for, so that for the future the chief part of our expenditure should consist in the salaries of the company. However, there is small profit in speculating on the matter, as we are sure to know the worst—or the best—on the 20th. We know that the Conferences at Vienna are to be resumed immediately, and we know that, with such important negotiators as Lord John Russell and M. Drouyn de Lhuys, who cannot be spared from their own countries one day longer than is absolutely necessary, there is no danger that the negotiations will be allowed to *traîner en longueur*; so here, too, in a week, the best, or worst, must be known. Then, again, before Sebastopol, there are now encamped a hundred thousand French and English—forty thousand Turks are at Eupatoria: it is impossible that such immense bodies of men, now tolerably healthy, and perfectly supplied in every way, can remain any longer in *status quo*. So it is more than likely that the intelligence received in the next week will fill a wide page—pray Heaven it be not a bloody one!—in the world's Fasti.

In the meantime, though there has been a cessation in the labours of Mr. Roebuck's Committee, that column in the morning papers which, regular as the theatrical announcements, contains the "complaints from the Crimea," is as full as ever. I will shortly notice two of these communications: one which, though founded on an honourable susceptibility, does not appear to me to be justified; and another, which certainly does. The first is the remonstrance addressed by the officers of the Commissariat to Lord Panmure against a speech of Lord Palmerston on the 19th February, which they understand to contain the assertion that they were not gentlemen. Every one knows that the language used in the House of Commons is not always distinguished for grammar, and certainly very seldom for precision. It is, therefore, only right that the spirit of a speech should be considered to override what may appear to be the literal meaning. Taken in this way, it is very clear that Lord Palmerston's intention (even judging merely from the single paragraph quoted in the letter—though I am far from justifying either the words or the tone, which seem to me ill-chosen and ill-judged) was to say what no one can deny—that the Commissariat is not officered from those classes which, even in the largest sense, are considered to form the aristocracy of the country. Half the disputes in the world arise from the want of a precise definition of the meaning of words; and so it is here. "One of the gentry," and "a gentleman," sound something alike, but mean very differently. There is Sir John Fitzwalloper: he has been "had up" before the Bench half a dozen times for assaults on his servants; he is a low sot, and a dirty dog in money matters; yet surely he is one of the gentry, for he has broad lands, lives in a time-honoured hall, and the Fitzwallopers came in with the Norman;—but a gentleman—oh! certainly not. Now, when the Premier said the Commissariat was not usually officered by the gentry, he might not have said a wise thing, but he said the truth, and cast no imputation on anyone.

The other complaint—the just one—is conveyed in a letter to the Times from Messrs. Lang and Co.; who tell us that, by order of the Post-office, all letters addressed to persons connected with the Crimean Railway, and weighing less than a  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz., are charged one shilling, or four times as much as if the recipient was a military man. Now, why on earth should the navvy pay more for his letter than the soldier? Both are equally fighting their country's battle, only the one uses the bayonet and the other the spade—not by any means the less effective weapon of the two. Anyhow, there is a wretched cheapskating economy about this regulation; a penny wisdom quite in accordance with the pound foolishness for which most departments of the Government have been lately so distinguished.

One of the peculiarities of our state of war is the difficulty of getting at the truth as to any matter connected with it. A paragraph, seemingly official, has been going the round of the papers, which asserts that the medals for distinguished service have been sent to the Crimea. Is Cassius to be believed, who, writing from the Junior United, says, "No such thing; the department is not aware when they will be ready for delivery." I'll take Cassius's word for a thousand pounds.

Tweedledum and Tweedledee—that is, Mr. Schallein the leader, and the executants, of the Crystal Palace band—have had a fierce quarrel. The musicians have rushed into angry, if not grammatical, print; from which it appears that all but four of them have refused to serve any longer under Schallein's banner. Musical or theatrical discords are the very last with which I should like to meddle, as the almost universal rule of them is "faults on both sides;" but this unanimity in a band of fifty-three musicians belonging to all nations does not look well for the bandmaster.

The Emperor and Empress of the French are certainly coming, but not to stay so long as was at first expected and hoped. They will arrive next Saturday, April 19th, at the Royal Villa, where they will remain until the 23rd, and then return to Paris. The reason of this sudden flight of the Imperial Family to the south is, the finding out of the secret of the French enemy—is a greater fact in the world's history than treaties of peace or wars won. It is the seal on the alliance of France and England. It is the stamp upon an unwritten history of the world in the hearts of all the people of Europe. The Emperor Napoleon has told the two emperors of the world that he will never be a brother in the cause of civilization and progress. A strange like has been that of the Emperor Napoléon and the Emperor told in romances. When he lands on our coast, when he passes through the streets of our metropolis—applauded, admired, respected by all—will point out to his fair wife places more interesting to both than the tall towers of Westminster, or the noble terraces of Windsor Castle. He will show her the house in Downing street where he passed much of his thoughtful exile; he will point out the pavement where, on a certain

day, he was to have been arrested, and where he was to have been sent to the Tower of London, if he had not been saved by the intervention of the Foreign Minister of France.

## THE THEATRES, &amp;c.

**HAYMARKET.**—Mr. Planché has supplied Mr. Buckstone with an extraordinary extravaganza, called "The New Haymarket Spring Meeting, 1855," some account of which we gave last week. Here there is no fairy tale, but a sporting chronicle, in which "the fancy" claims unbroken license, partly allegorical and partly dramatic. In great part, however, the piece retains the usual character of Mr. Buckstone's Easter entertainments—that of a *revue* of theatrical doings, past, present, and to come. Among the allegorical characters London holds a distinguished place, personated by Mrs. Caroline White, sleeping in Guildhall, but awakened by Old Time (in the shape of Mr. Chippendale), to a sense of her position. Mr. Buckstone as *Lord Mayor's Fool* undertakes to help her out of perils for which Gog and Magog have no remedy. The *Lord Mayor's Show* in a fog serves first as a vision of instruction; and the Moon is invoked for advice and assistance; by whom counselled, appeal is next made to *Westminster* (Miss Harriet Gordon). There is much in the mordant couplets of the character in the second part of Goethe's "Faust." *Belarius* and *Tylus* are then introduced, and the rights of the West and East are interchanged between the high consulting persons. The various theatres are steeled by horses running for the "Great Metropolitan Handicap, or London and Westminster Easter 'takes.'" A jockey dance ensues, which is concluded, as usual, with a magnificent tableau. The house was crowded, and the piece quite successful.

**PRINCESS.**—Mr. J. M. Morton is the compiler of the Easter piece for this house. It is entitled "The Muleteer of Toledo," and founded on M. Adam's opera of the same name. As might have been expected, the plot is none of the strongest or the most exciting; but it is capable of elegant distribution, is not without a certain calm interest, is well placed on the stage, and is acted with grace, propriety and effect. Miss Leclercq performs the part of the *Queen of Murcia*, in the disguise of a peasant with all that charming naïveté which so frequently distinguishes the style of this excellent actress. Mr. W. Lacy enacts the sham muleteer, but real King, who guards the supposed peasant girl through all the perils of the journey, and seats her at last on the throne of Castile. Mr. Harley, as *Count de Pompolo*, one of the conspirators whom these disguises serve to defeat, was to the full as eccentric as he was intended; and Mrs. Winstanley, as the *Countess*, could not help being portly, and when carried off by the clumsy plotters instead of the heroine, found herself in a naturally amusing position, which, however, she somewhat exaggerated. The last scene of cross purposes is composed of a series of stage-situations skilfully contrived and efficiently executed. The perplexity arising from the confusion of the King with his brother, and which fact is to serve as the solution of all difficulties, is an ingenious contrivance of M. Dennery, and productive of that surprise which is permissible enough in plays of intrigue, though frequently injurious in dramas of more importance. Expectation, as in Shakespeare's plays, is in them the preferable element, and we have scarcely ever seen it substituted with advantage. But each class of piece has its own conditions; and the present has been treated with the judgment and tact to be expected from the well-practised playwright who has acted as adapter on the occasion.

**ADEPHIL.**—Mr. Mark Lemon, as the author of the Easter piece at this house, has achieved a remarkable triumph. A five-act burlesque is a novelty in itself, and may serve to show, together with the instance of "Janet Pride," and other examples, that the pentad form the drama is again asserting its ancient prestige. The notion of embodying five legends in one burlesque is that carried out by the playwright in his "Entirely New Edition of the Fairy Tales of Mother Goose, with many highly-coloured illustrations." A slender but sufficient link of connection is established, so as to enable the *dramatis persona* of the first tale to pass easily into the representatives of the succeeding ones; all being managed in such a manner that a culminating development is obtained, and thus an increasing interest preserved. The stories are all of the most esteemed folk-lore. First, there is Mother Goose's own narrative; secondly, "The Three Wishes;" thirdly, "Little Red Riding-Hood;" fourthly, "Cinderella;" and fifthly, "The Sleeping Beauty." We were glad to find that Mr. Beard has been added to the company. His rich and ripe humour gave dignity and breadth to the paternal burlesque, which was highly relished by the audience. Miss Woolgar was, as usual, great in masculine parts, and in one not only sustained a "terrible combat" with Mr. Paul Bedford, but danced a hornpipe as *Lively Jack*, in obedience to the just expectations of the British public. Miss Mary Keely performed more than one heroine with nursery pathos; and Miss Wyndham, as *Mother Goose*, was the most superb representative of that pantomimic dame that we ever recollect. Altogether, this burlesque is very elegant, ingenious, and effective. The pictorial accessories were fine, and the costumes very pleasing.

**STRAND.**—The title of the burlesque at this theatre is "King Queer." The allusion to Shakespeare's great tragedy is obvious; and Mr. Halford (who is the author of the piece) enacts the hero with that wonderful, and apparently involuntary, imitation of Mr. Charles Kean's style, which originally obtained for him an unexpected reputation. Miss Isaacs sustained a part which combined caricatures of *Cordelia* and the *Fool*, in which she sings many songs. The text is full of verbal wit, puns, and temporary allusions. The success was complete.

**ASTLEY'S.**—Mr. Nelson Lee has furnished the equestrian drama for the season, under the title of "The Field against the Favourite." The opposite stake is the venture on which one Mr. *Candour* hazards and loses his all. The horse is doctored by his own jockey, and exposed to the chance of being burned alive in his own stables. Ultimately, however, the repentant servant makes restitution, and furnishes the means of punishing his tempters and his master's enemies. The scenes in the circle were as usual, calculated to astonish, and the performances of the evening were successful, though the house was not so full as usual.

**OTHER THEATRES HAVE NOT GONE TO THE COST THIS YEAR OF FURNISHING EASTER PIECES;** and, in fact, owing to the state of the war, exist in rather an exceptional state. Things must "suffer a change" before theatricals can regain their wonted position. The Lyceum company exhibited on Easter Monday at SADLEN'S WELLS. Mr. F. Robinson supplied the place of Mr. C. Mathews in "Husbands, Rejoice," and fairly won his spurs in the competition. The "Cozy Couple," and "Two Heads are Better than One," successfully followed. Mr. and Mrs. F. Matthews and Mr. Roxby acted with spirit. The audience was numerous, and it is likely that the company will prosper in their temporary asylum. The OLYMPIC puts forth no novelty. "The Yellow Dwarf" sufficing for the present. Mr. George Vining and Miss Castleton appeared (for the first time) as Mr. and Mrs. Howard, in "Law for Ladies." Mr. Robson, in "Kill or Cure," was as effective as usual. The small amount of effort required at this house to ensure its progress may serve to show the advantage of good acting as the staple of attraction. There was likewise no novelty at the SUNNY; but Mr. Wright has been engaged for a few nights in "Victorine," "My Precious Betsy," and the "Wreck Ashore." At the MARYLEBONE a sub-management is at present regnant. "The Merry Wives of Windsor" was, on Monday, respectably performed. *Falstaff* was sustained by Mr. Barrett; the rest of the characters were undertaken by some whose names we recognise as lately pertaining to the St. James's company. Miss Rosina Wright (late of the Lyceum) also appeared in a "ballet divertissement." The list of pieces announced imply some ambition in the troupe; and we trust that the members of it may find their enterprise an improving one—to themselves individually as rising young artistes, as well as collectively in a more material sense.

**THE ROYAL PANOPTICON.**—Among the Easter novelties produced at this excellent Institution was a lecture on "Life in Pompeii," by Mr. Leicester Buckingham, illustrated by diorama views, depicting the past and present appearance of that interesting city. After dwelling on the interest which belongs to the domestic life of antiquity, and the unique facilities which Pompeii affords for its study, Mr. Buckingham sketched briefly the topography and early history of that city; and then, transporting his auditors from Pompeii in ruins to Pompeii in the zenith of its glory, he traced a vivid picture of its ancient aspect, and described the construction of its dwellings, and the ordinary routine of daily life among its citizens; and concluded with a graphic summary of the most striking memorial of the sudden destruction of the city which the labours of the excavators have unveiled. The pictures embraced views of the Bay of Naples, and of the Ruins of the Gate of Herculaneum, and the House of Sallust; and Restorations of the Houses of Sallust and of the tragic poet, the Temple of Fortune, &c. The "Scenes of the War in the Crimea" have received considerable additions; among which the most important are a pictorial map of the territory now occupied by the besieging armies around Sebastopol, and illustrations of the Light Cavalry Charge at Balaclava, and the Hospital at Sevastopol. The illustrative lecture, delivered by Mr. Leicester Buckingham, conveys a concise sketch of the history and topography of the Crimea, and a succinct narrative of the

leading incidents of the campaign. In addition to these leading features, the programme embraces lectures on various scientific and literary subjects; the gigantic electrical machine, with many brilliant experiments, lucidly explained by Mr. Partington; the performances on the grand organ by Mr. Best; besides the luminous fountain, &c.

**OLD ENGLISH AND PATRIOTIC SONGS.**—Mr. George Buckland nightly favours the visitors to the Polytechnic Institution with a brief lecture, bearing the above title, of which the vocal illustrations are, of course, the most attractive portion. These are but five in number; i.e., "The Old English Gentleman," "The British Grenadier," "The Leather Bottl," "Stand to your Guns," and "The Old Politician." Whether to praise Mr. Buckland more for his superior vocalisation, his skill as a pianist, or the humour which he throws into humorous songs, we cannot decide; but it is clear that his audiences admire greatly the declamatory power and the mimetic expression which he displays in rendering the two last-named compositions. This musical lecture is a decided success.

## THE NEWSPAPER STAMP.

We stated last week that a memorial was presented to Sir G. Cornewall Lewis, Chancellor of the Exchequer, on the 4th of April, by a deputation of Yorkshire newspaper proprietors, in which they stated as their opinion that it would be a great advantage to the public, and a convenience to newspaper proprietors, as well as an actual and considerable gain to the revenue, if the proposed stamp on newspapers, to entitle them to transmission and re-transmission through the Post-office, were a halfpenny instead of a penny; and if there were also issued halfpenny stamped covers to entitle unstamped copies of registered newspapers to a single transmission through the post."

As regards the revenue part of the question, they show that the effect of the proposed law would be to cause newspaper proprietors to print the greater part of their impression on unstamped paper. It was not improbable, therefore, that the number of newspapers sent through the Post-office would in future be reduced at least one-half, and possibly two-thirds; and, as the expenses of the Post-office could not be reduced in anything like a corresponding proportion, the revenue may suffer more seriously than has been contemplated.

If, however, instead of a penny stamp for newspapers to entitle them to transmission and re-transmission through the Post-office, only a halfpenny stamp were required, the memorialists believe that an immensely larger proportion of the newspapers issued would be printed on stamped paper. The difference of the halfpenny would in many, if not in most, cases remove the inducement to prefer unstamped to stamped copies. It would practically equalise the cost of the stamped and unstamped copies, except in the places of publication. The Post-office, generally speaking, would then deliver newspapers as cheaply as they could be delivered in any other way. There might, in some cases, be a fractional difference (not, however, equal to the smallest coin in circulation) in favour of distribution by news agents or special messengers, but the difference would be so slight as to induce newspaper proprietors to prefer the less troublesome mode of the Post-office; and their customers would probably wish to receive their newspapers along with their letters, by the post delivery, as at present. A halfpenny stamp would be universally approved, and scarcely any would think it worth their while to inquire if a cheaper mode of delivery could be found. Not only fourpenny and threepenny papers, but, probably, even twopenny papers, would print a considerable part of their impression on stamped sheets. Of course, when newspapers were sold (stamp included) at least a halfpenny cheaper than at present, the circulation would be stimulated, and a larger proportion would pass through the Post-office; still more would this be the case if the existing papers were issued at a greater reduction of price than a halfpenny, or if new publications should appear of a smaller size and lower price than the present. It may be confidently assumed that the tendency of a halfpenny stamp would be continually towards an increased consumption, while the tendency of a penny stamp would be continually towards a diminished consumption.

What would be the amount of the increase in the number of newspapers issued and sent through the Post-office can only be matter of conjecture; but there are reasons for believing that the increase would be very great. According to a paper just printed by the House of Lords (No. 59), the number of stamps issued to newspapers in 1853, before the former reduction of the newspaper stamp, was 32,973,400, and the number issued in 1854 was 111,977,405; showing an increase in twenty years of 79,004,008, or 239 per cent.

The reduction in the price of the existing papers likely to take place now will not be quite so great in proportion as it was twenty years ago; but, considering the probability of new and smaller papers being published at a lower price, and that every reduction of price brings newspapers within the means of a much larger class of the population, while the progress of education is also augmenting the number of readers, it seems not improbable that, ere long, the number of copies of newspapers issued in this country will be threefold the present number.

It will not, therefore, be an over-estimate to compute that the number of newspapers printed on halfpenny stamps to clear the post would be at least double the number which now pass through the Post-office.

If, then, the effect of a penny stamp would be to reduce the number of stamped papers at least one-half, and the effect of a halfpenny stamp would be to double them, the difference between the two rates would be fourfold in favour of the cheaper. Of course, it is not meant that four times as many papers would be printed in the one case as in the other, but that four times as many would be printed on stamps to pass through the Post-office.

The practical question for the Government, in deciding between a penny stamp and halfpenny stamp, of course is, what would the newspapers yield in each case over the expenditure specially entailed upon the Post-office for that particular service. It is obvious that if the number of newspapers was reduced to one-half, the expenditure specially entailed by newspapers would not be reduced one-half; and, on the other hand, if the number was doubled, the expense entailed by them on the Post-office would not be doubled.

The opinion formed by the memorialists as to the reduction in the number of newspapers likely to be sent through the Post-office, if required to bear a penny stamp, entirely agrees with that expressed by Mr. Rowland Hill to the Commons' Committee. He stated that the number of newspaper stamps issued in 1849 was 79,000,000, and the number of papers computed to have passed through the Post-office was 63,500,000; and assuming that in future, if the stamp duty were repealed, and a newspaper paid a penny every time it passed through the office, he thought it "a high estimate" to expect half the present number. Now the number of stamps issued in 1854 was 112,000,000; and if we adopt the same proportion as above, 93,000,000 would pass through the Post-office. But if, by the adoption of a penny stamp on the repeal of the existing duty, the number of papers sent through the Post-office was reduced to one-half, the number would then be 46,500,000, which, at one penny each, would yield £193,750.

They have thought it reasonable to calculate that with a halfpenny stamp the number of newspapers passing through the Post-office would be doubled. Instead of 93,000,000 there would be 186,000,000, which, at a halfpenny each, would yield £387,500.

As regards the public advantage and convenience,—

It is obvious that persons living in villages and country districts would save a halfpenny on each paper which they receive, in case of the adoption of the halfpenny stamp, either as compared with the present state of things, or with that which would exist under a penny stamp. The lower rate would operate as the greatest advantage to those whose difficulty of receiving public intelligence is necessarily, from their local position, the greatest. The measure would therefore promote the diffusion of knowledge, and afford the country districts nearly the same intellectual advantages as are enjoyed in towns.

The memorialists testify that among their own body, the newspaper proprietors, most of whom have looked with alarm on the measure of the Government, the adoption of the halfpenny stamp would do very much to remove their objections. It would be regarded as an important boon, especially by those in the agricultural counties, where it is believed many proprietors would print their entire impression on stamped paper, so large is the proportion of copies which they send through the Post-office.

The halfpenny stamp would allow the newspaper business to be carried on with the existing arrangements, and with the least possible disturbance of those

agents, either to publishers, news-agents, or subscribers.

It is a consideration not unworthy of influencing the Government and the Legislature, that the lower rate of stamp recommended by the memorialists would give to the largest and best-conducted newspapers published in London and the chief cities and towns of the kingdom very nearly the same facilities of circulation as would be enjoyed by small local papers. With a penny stamp the latter would receive a fictitious and undesirable stimulus. With a halfpenny stamp, the ablest political writing and the best news would stand on nearly equal ground throughout the whole country with the most inferior publications.

Combining, therefore, the interests of the revenue with the advantage and convenience of the public, the memorialists confidently submit that the halfpenny stamp would be better than the penny stamp.

**HAMPTON COURT AND ST. JOHN'S WOOD.**—In a Chapter of the Knights of St. John of Jerusalem, in Clerkenwell, held 11th July, 1514, Sir T. Doewra, prior, a lease was granted to Cardinal Wolsey of the manor of Hampton, which the most eminent physicians of England and learned doctors of Padua had selected as the healthiest spot within twenty miles of London for the site of a palace for the Cardinal. In this curious document (Cotton MS. British Museum) is a grant of four loads of timber annually for pines for the Hampton Woods, Middx.—"Curiosities of London."



DEPARTURE, FROM PORTSMOUTH DOCKYARD, OF REAR-ADMIRAL DUNDAS, COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF THE BALTIC FLEET.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)



substitute for coffee, we have in fact made a more extensive trial of divers parched cereals—carrot, sawdust, mahogany ditto, ferruginous earths, and burnt sugar. With good arrowroot, in small proportion, we have eaten sago, potato, and tapioca starches, and bad arrowroot in large proportion. Dutch, French, and Sicilian fish, and British sprats, smeared with bole Armenian and Venetian red, have entered our stomachs under the denomination of anchovies. Our bread has contained a considerable proportion of mashed potatoes, water, and alum: the latter of the two last-named ingredients having been added thereto to the end of incorporating therewith as much as possible of the former. On that bread we have spread butter, through which, also, much water was diffused by the medium of salt. Our cooks, imagining that they were flavouring our food with cinnamon and other spices merely, qualified them much more with cassia, flows of various kinds, ground rice, linseed-meal, mustard-husks, deal sawdust and salt; and our devilled biscuits have been seasoned with a mixture truly diabolical, of Cayenne pepper, with ground rice, mustard-husks, deal sawdust, salt, brickdust, and red lead. Commingled with the cocoa and chocolate wherein we have trusted, we have partaken of several sorts of meal, of sugar, chaffry, and of red ochre and of other ores of iron. We have smoked water, sugar, and treacle with our tobacco. Gin-and-water, made pungent with capsicum, has been passed off on us for neat gin; diluted stout has commended itself to us as entire by the smack of *cocculus indicus*, sweet flag, quassia, capsicum, coriander, ginger, and grains of paradise. We have treated children to marmalade made chiefly of apples or turnip, and if we have ever been thoughtless enough to give them coloured confectionery, we have administered to them cochineal, lake, red lead, vermillion, Indian red, gamboge, lemon and orange (tinted) yellow, chrome yellow, indigo, Prussian blue, Antwerp blue, artificial ultramarine, carbonate and arsenite of copper,umber, sienna, Vandyke brown, white lead, and plaster of Paris; these poisons being somewhat mitigated by dilution with a little flour and sugar.

The list of abominations of which we may have unwittingly partaken, or occasioned others to partake, might be swelled to an extent, for some idea whereof we must refer the reader to Dr. Hassall's book. There are, however, some adulterations, besides those above specified, so deleterious as to demand express notice. One of the worst of these is the contamination of pickles and preserves with copper, which is very general, and frequently so intense as to render the articles quite poisonous. Green preserves and pickles are purposely impregnated with this metal in order to heighten their colour, though in jams and similar confections it is often derived from the copper vessels in which they are improperly prepared. Another most dangerous falsification is that of snuff; several sorts of which, in addition to chromate and bichromate of potash, chrome yellow, umber, and red and yellow ochre, are largely imbued with oxide and chromate of lead. This substance—and the same may be said of copper, and other pernicious metals—is what is called a cumulative poison—that is, when taken for a length of time continually in small quantities, it is apt to accumulate in the system till that is saturated with it, when its presence and agency are manifested by the most fearful results. Thus, lead produces paralysis, especially of the wrists, and some striking cases are related by Dr. Hassall in which this affection was clearly traceable to the use of snuff which had been poisoned with salts of that mineral.

A remarkable and very flagrant adulteration is that of mustard, which is nearly always fraudulently mixed with wheat flour to an immense amount, and coloured with turmeric, insomuch that such an article as genuine mustard is hardly to be obtained.

It may be some relief to those whom the foregoing citations of the *Lancet* Commission's disclosures may have made rather uncomfortable, to state that some dark suspicions generally current of the horrors of adulteration have not been verified. Bread has not been found to contain ground bones; nor have calves' brains been detected in milk, for the sophistication of which recourse has in the main been restricted to the "cow with the iron tail." Economical housekeepers, however, will be shocked to learn that brown sugar—besides being falsified with starch and flour—contains, among divers impurities, the spores of minute fungi, or toadstools, and other minute bodies of an animal nature, called *acari*—all, or mostly, alive and creeping, visible to the naked eye, and when magnified disgustingly ugly. The moral of this information is that it is advisable to use loaf or crystallised sugar exclusively, in preference to brown.

Apprehension may also in a measure be calmed by the consideration that the publication of the *Lancet* Commission Reports has done much towards abating the evil against which they were directed. Mr. Wakley, with admirable courage, decided on publishing, after due notice given, the names and addresses of those tradesmen of whom the articles submitted to analysis were purchased. This bold design was thoroughly carried out; and really after reading the lists of "respectable parties" whose goods are noted for the most shameful adulteration, one is disposed, in walking through many a splendid street, to regard a large number of the shops on either side of it in much the same light as one might have viewed the smaller establishments on the right and left of Field-lane, while Field-lane was. Now, however, that attention has been drawn to the practices of the finer, but not less dishonest, shopkeepers, they will feel, perhaps, that the eyes of the public are upon them, and be restrained in their dealings by the like salutary apprehension to that which controls their humbler brethren in the "low neighbourhoods," when conscious of being under the eye of the policeman. Moreover, the Volume of Reports being profusely illustrated with woodcuts, of the microscopic details, and containing ample and clear chemical directions also, will, doubtless, tend to popularise the analysis of food, and thus to check or limit its adulteration. A microscope, which will fully answer the purpose, can be obtained for six guineas; and with this help, and that of Dr. Hassall's book, almost any paternosters might be his own analyst. It might be worth the while of many a struggling philosopher to set up the business of performing analyses of commodities on moderate terms: at any rate microscopic examinations might be cheaply made.

The Volume of Reports is dedicated to Sir Benjamin Hall, and certainly its argument loudly demands the attention of the Board of Health. To purify the atmosphere and clear the water are not the only sanitary requisites, greatly needed though they are; and how great the need of the genuine liquid is, and what a diluted sewage London is supplied with instead, are points strikingly illustrated in the pages before us. But to prevent the vitiation of food and manufactured drinks is equally necessary for the health of the public. This may be injured by the adulteration of nutritive substances to an extent that few perhaps imagine. The effects of "cumulative poisons" have been already adverted to: how do we know that diseases called malignant—such as cancer—may not be referable to some such causes? Those horrible diseases indicate the presence of *some* poison in the system. How did it get there? By any more likely conveyance than that of corrupted food? The maladies in question principally affect the poor, who are also the chief victims of adulteration; and protection therefrom is pre-eminently a poor man's question.

Legislative interference to put this evil down should clearly exact severer penalties against it. Adulteration in its mildest form is more than equivalent to theft or forgery; it is not only stealth of money, but also plunder of the stomach. Nothing but fear of the crank or the hulks deters the rascals capable of adulterating provisions from picking a pocket or committing burglary. The admixture of noxious substances with human food corresponds precisely to robbery, aggravated by assault with intent to do grievous bodily harm. It deserves exactly the same sentence, and ought to be punishable with a long term of imprisonment and hard labour, or of penal servitude.

Dr. Hassall's book contains a rich fund of information respecting its subject matter, conveyed in plain, straightforward terms. Those who want to understand the tricks of trade which it exposes, and wish to render themselves even with the dishonest tradesmen, should read this volume. There are few such whom its perusal will not induce to possess themselves of it as a book of reference.

**THE PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY OF THE SEA.** By M. F. MAURY, LL.D., Lieut. U.S. Navy. Sampson Low, Son, and Co.

Our readers are aware that nearly three-fourths of the earth's surface are covered by the sea, and that this apparent obstacle to man's progress, at the borders of which he shrank back terrified, is made by art to be to his foot what the atmosphere is to the wing of the bird. On its yielding bosom he now sails or steams quickly, and with ease, whithersoever he will. The great highway of nations, as the sea has in consequence been appropriately called, has its own laws, which he must study to use it advantageously for his purposes. But though it has long been known that the winds which blow over it follow (in some districts, at least) a settled and ordained course, and that its currents can impede or can be turned to the profit of the mariner, only lately have these great phenomena been considered worthy of scientific observation. Numerous theories have indeed been propounded of the trade winds and other regular winds, and of currents, such as those which continually set into the Mediterranean and into the Red Sea; and now and then a reflecting philosopher has suggested some doubt to be cleared up by ship-captains. But till lately the men who cross and recross the ocean, and pass their lives on its unrecording waves, no more thought of studying its physical laws than they did of the stars. At first from the general impulse to, after and during the march, new findings

itself sensibly felt throughout the civilised world. Lieut. Maury, the author of the book before us, has the great merit of giving this new direction to the thoughts and labours of the increasing maritime population of every country. From his connection with the astronomical department of the United States Government he was led to notice the great want of correct knowledge of the winds and currents which assist or impede navigation, and he suggested certain forms by which every navigator could record his experience of winds and currents on a uniform system. He invented a language that should speak to the eye and at once tell the direction and the force of the wind at different places—the set and strength of the current—should describe the course of the navigator, and the time of the year at which observations were made. He induced old sea-captains to ruminate upon their long-forgotten logs; and, from materials gathered from them, he constructed a series of wind and current charts, which gave to the young ship-master at a glance a great deal of the experience of many clever or celebrated voyagers. The more information he got (many instances occurring of zig-zag routes being followed across the ocean for which no person could assign a reason except that chance had taken the first navigators in the track—one ship following another and leaving great parts of the ocean wholly unvisited) the more was he convinced of the necessity of gathering further information. His first charts, meagre and unsatisfactory, showed some few spots continually frequented, like the sea off Sandy Hook or the Strait of Dover, and all the facts concerning them tolerably well known; but they also showed vast blank spaces, of which nothing whatever was known. To encourage ship-masters to make the required observations, to every one was given a copy of the wind and current charts, and the sailing directions founded on the experience already acquired, who would undertake to send an abstract of his log to the National Observatory at Washington. The consequence was remarkable and encouraging. "In a little while there were more than a thousand navigators engaged, day and night, and in all parts of the ocean, in making and recording observations according to a uniform plan." Several Governments lent their aid to promote Lieut. Maury's plan, and the thousand navigators are likely soon to be increased to many thousand. Great Britain alone has upwards of 20,000 vessels; the United States have almost as many; all other nations together have scarcely as many as either of them, but supposing they have—and the number of ships is increasing very fast in almost every maritime nation—there may soon be ninety thousand observers scattered over every part of the ocean, and in the course of their duty recording observations of winds and currents, and all the physical geography of the ocean in a uniform manner. Such a vast army of natural philosophers was never before enlisted in one cause; and the great success they are likely to achieve appears the more certain from the fact that the progress of knowledge has been at all times and all places great in proportion to the number of observers. The great ocean, the poet's emblem of eternity; the winds that blow over part of it; the ceaseless agitations of its waters, carrying seeds, and plants, and animalcule from pole to pole—it being no more at rest in any one part than the blood is ever stagnant in the animal body—will all, in the course of time, be recorded, and the ocean and the atmosphere will be as well known as any part of the land. To prepare the way for these continuous inquiries, to point out the matters most worthy of being noted, and to assist this great army of observers, is one of the objects of Lieut. Maury's present work.

Another great object is to show how much has already been done to generalise the knowledge at present collected, and to point out some curious conclusions deduced from it. To show how much art may be promoted by unpretending and apparently trivial observations, we should like to quote largely from Mr. Maury's eloquent pages. This pleasure, however, is forbidden by our space, and we must limit ourselves to reminding our readers that many of the rapid voyages now continually made between Australia and England, between the United States and Australia, and between Canton and London, are in part due to ships being better constructed, but in greater part to the recorded observations of winds and currents, which have enabled the captains more advantageously to shape their course. Our readers are aware that the race betwixt the *Marco Polo* and other ships over a course of many thousand miles, has been so equal as to make it doubtful which ship was the victor. Similar sorts of races have taken place from New York to San Francisco, and the ships, following the counsel of the wind and current charts, have arrived within a few hours of each other. Voyages are not only shortened many days or weeks by the knowledge gathered by Lieut. Maury and his army of observers, they are reduced to a certainty, and are performed with almost as much dispatch as journeys by land.

Saying so much only of the utility of the pursuit, let us now say a word about what is considered at present as merely curious. Poets have dreamed of "a thousand fearful wrecks—dead men's skulls—great anchors—heaps of pearls, and vast treasures that lie scattered at the bottom of the ocean;" but, while wrecks and drowned treasures, even after the ocean has been traversed for centuries, can only be, in the more frequented and dangerous parts, as grains of sand to the Alps, the bottom of the ocean presents to the sounding-lead of the navigator many magnificent specimens of knowledge far surpassing all that ever glowed in the fancy of Shakespeare. It brings to our notice the "very ribs of the solid earth." Running between Cape Race, in Newfoundland, and Cape Clear, in Ireland, the existence of such a great rib has been ascertained. It is now called the telegraphic plateau; and a company purposed to make it the site of a submarine telegraph across the Atlantic. By dint of a very ingenious machine for sounding, invented by Lieutenant Brooke, of the United States Navy, some of the materials of which this plateau is formed have been brought to hand from a depth of more than two miles, and subjected to microscopic examination. Professor Bailey, of West Point, has ascertained that all these materials consist of microscopic shells; not a particle of sand or gravel exists in them. They are made up of perfect little calcareous shells (*Foraminifera*), and a small number of siliceous shells (*Diadomaceae*). The ocean teems with life, and wherever there is life there is death—or, as Lieut. Maury says, "Where there is a nursery, hard by there will be found a graveyard: but it never occurred to us before to consider the surface of the sea as one wide nursery, its every ripple a cradle, and its bottom one vast burial-place." "Animalcule, that make the surface of the sea sparkle and glow with life," "are secreting from its surface solid matter," and filling up the cavities below. The little marine insects which build up great coral walls are the architects of the new lands in the Pacific. Many marl beds, and many parts of the surface of the now solid earth, are composed of the remains of similar small creatures to those which have been brought up from two miles below the surface of the sea. On Lieut. Maury's showing, which we cannot follow in detail, this life and death in the ocean is the means of preserving the purity of its waters. The rivers are always conveying to it solid matter, and the microscopic organisms of the deep-sea lead secrete it, and become themselves the basis of the solid earth. Lieut. Maury supposes, too, that the birth-place of these organisms may be the Gulf of Mexico, or some remote region, brought by the Gulf stream, or other currents of the ocean, to a very distant burial-place. The examination of the currents of the ocean, and of the deposits at its bottom, as revealed by the sounding ball and rod, carries us, like the researches of the geologist, but more directly and immediately, back to the formation of the world. We see, but with the mind's eye, creation at work. If this be only a curious, it is, at least, a splendid, faucey, and well worth studying, in all its details, in Lieut. Maury's eloquent pages.

One other leading point of great speculative importance must be referred to. The author speaks of the great heart of the ocean beating time to the seasons, and palpitating to the winds and rain, to the clouds and the sunshine; and continually invests the earth with the attributes of life. The great processes of accretion, assimilation, abrasion, and decay, that are for ever going on in all animals, are represented by analogous processes, in the ocean which circulates like blood, and in the atmosphere, which is part of the grand and exquisite machinery—clouds, and day and night, all contributing to the growth, the deposits, the abrasions, and the assimilation, and preserving in harmony the exquisite adaptation of the ocean. Comparative anatomists have traced one homologous form through all animal life, from the smallest creature up to the elephant, and it would be as anomalous then were it were the ant to the elephant in the function of the earth. Lieut. Maury's theory is, that the next greatest perceptible objects in creation as wholes, endowed with life, are the earth, the planets, the sun, and the stars. Drawing from the ceaseless flow of the ocean and the atmosphere an analogy between the earth's existence and animal life—an analogy between the earth and all other stellar bodies being apparent—the conviction arises that one homologous form pervades all creation. These, however, are some of the merely curious and speculative results of inquiries which begin in the lowest practical utility, which keep steadily in view the promotion of safe and speedy navigation, and which continually lead to practical suggestions of the highest value. By them several distant voyages have already been shortened from a sixth to a third, and though we may never "tame the winds," which will still "blow as they list," when we know the course by their habitual course and direction, and their successive changes in all quarters, by means of Lieutenant Maury's army of

observers, we shall be able to profit by them as we profit by the tides in our rivers and on our shores to attain our ends. Of some books the publication comes, after a lapse of time, to be considered an event in the history of mankind. Bacon's "Advancement of Learning," Newton's "Principia," "Locke on the Understanding," Smith's "Wealth of Nations," Malthus' "Law of Population," are of this description; and we err greatly if Lieut. Maury's book will not hereafter be classed with them, and if he be not ranked with the great men who have taken the lead in extending and improving knowledge and art. His book displays, in a remarkable degree, like the "Advancement of Learning," and the "Natural History" of Buffon, profound research and a magnificent imagination.

#### THE LATE MRS. ARTHUR NICHOLS.

(THE AUTHORSHIP OF "JANE EYRE.")

This lady, formerly Miss Brontë, but better known under her *nom de plume* of Currier Bell, whose lamented death we have recently had occasion to notice, was the daughter of the Rev. Patrick Brontë, of Haworth, in Yorkshire, and wife of the Rev. Arthur Bell Nichols, of the same place. She commenced her literary career, in 1844, with a collection of poems, written in conjunction with her two sisters, which made its appearance under the title of "Poems by Currier, Ellis, and Acton Bell." The volume produced some sensation at the time; less, perhaps, from any extraordinary power or originality that it was thought to display, than from the peculiarity of the names annexed to what purported to be the general patronymic, and which, as the public quickly discovered, were designed to cover rather than to reveal the identity of the respective authors. The circumstances connected with this singular and now deeply interesting literary partnership, will be given most fitly in the words of that member of the little band who has so recently passed from amongst us:—"About five years ago," wrote Miss Brontë in 1850, "my two sisters and myself, after a somewhat prolonged period of separation found ourselves reunited, and at home. Residing in a remote district, where education had made little progress, and where, consequently, there was no inducement to social intercourse beyond our own domestic circle, we were wholly dependent on ourselves and each other, on books and study, for the enjoyments and occupations of life. The highest stimulus, as well as the liveliest pleasure, we had known from childhood upwards lay in attempts at literary composition. We had very early cherished the dream of becoming authors. This dream, never relinquished, even when distance divided and absorbing tasks occupied us, now suddenly acquired strength and consistency. It took the character of a resolve. We agreed to arrange a small selection of our poems, and, if possible, get them printed. Averse to personal publicity, we veiled our own names under those of Currier, Ellis, and Acton Bell; the ambiguous choice being dictated by a sort of conscientious scruple at assuming Christian names positively masculine, while we did not like to declare ourselves women, because—without at that time suspecting that our mode of writing and thinking was not what is called "feminine"—we had a vague impression that authoresses are liable to be looked on with prejudice; we had noticed how critics sometimes use for their chastisement the weapon of personality, and for their reward a flattery which is not true praise. The bringing out of our little book was hard work. As was to be expected, neither we nor our poems were at all wanted; but for this we had been prepared at the outset. Through many obstacles a way was at last made, and the book was printed; it did not obtain much favourable criticism, and is scarcely known; but ill-success failed to crush us;—the mere effort to succeed had given a wonderful zest to existence; it must be pursued. We each, therefore, set to work on a prose tale." The elder sister, Emily, produced "Wuthering Heights;" the younger sister, Anne, "Agnes Grey;" and Miss Brontë herself, a prose narrative in one volume, which, unlike the efforts of her sisters, did not at that period succeed in meeting with a publisher. But, though it failed of actual success, it was declined (for business reasons) by the last firm to whom it was offered so courteously, its merits and demerits were discussed in a spirit so enlightened, that this very refusal cheered the author more, perhaps, than a less cordial acceptance would have done. The novel of "Jane Eyre," at which she had been patiently working while her other story had been plodding its weary way round London, was, in the course of a few weeks, finished. "Friendly and skilful hands took it in," says the writer; and, in the Autumn of 1847, within a month of its conclusion, this remarkable novel issued from the press. The public, at once recognising the power and genius of the writer, gave the work such a reception as must have proved a compensation for previous disappointments, and was calculated to nerve and strengthen her for renewed exertion in that path of literature which she had marked out for the exercise of her talents.

But the triumph of success on her own part, was damped by the less-marked recognition granted to the works of her sister-coadjutors; shadow mingled with the sunshine. Neither authoress, however, allowed herself to sink for a moment under want of encouragement. Emily served the one, and endurance upheld the other: they were both prepared to try again. But a great change approached them swiftly. "Affliction came," wrote the bereaved sister, "in that shape which to anticipate is dread—to look back on, grief. In the very heat and burthen of the day the labourers failed over their work." Two months of hope and fear passed painfully by; and the day came at last when the beloved of many hearts was to pass away. The young author of "Wuthering Heights" finished her mental labours with her first book, and died of consumption, in December, 1848. Searcely had the grass grown green over the grave of Emily, when the second sister, Anne, was called upon to follow. She lingered for scarcely half a year; and, in the month of flowers found her own resting-place in the quiet churchyard which they had all trodden so often together. In concluding a touching tribute to the memory of her sisters, Miss Brontë observes, "I may sum up all by saying that for strangers they were nothing; for superficial observers less than nothing; but for those who had known them all their lives in the intimacy of close relationship, they were genuine, good, and truly great." Five years more have passed away since these words were penned, and now that little loving band of sisters are again reunited; the void is destined to be with the living. Married only last July to Mr. Arthur Nichols, the Curate of her native place, Charlotte, the youngest of the three sisters, and the last of a family of six, died during the night of Saturday, the 31st of March, at her father's house, Haworth Vicarage, which had continued her home during the short period of her married life. Like those who had preceded her, she passed quickly away, but leaving a name which will survive, if we mistake not, in the memories of more than the present generation.

There are few instances to be found in the literary history of the time in which an unknown writer has taken firmer hold at once on the public mind than the authoress of "Jane Eyre." The startling individuality of her portraits, drawn to the life, however strange and wayward that life may be, fixes them on the mind, and seems "to dare you to forget." Successions of scenes, rather than story, are dashed off under a fit of inspiration; until the reader, awed as it were by the presence of this great mental power, draws breath and confesses it must be truth, though perhaps not to be recognised among the phases of any life he may have known, or scenes he may have witnessed.

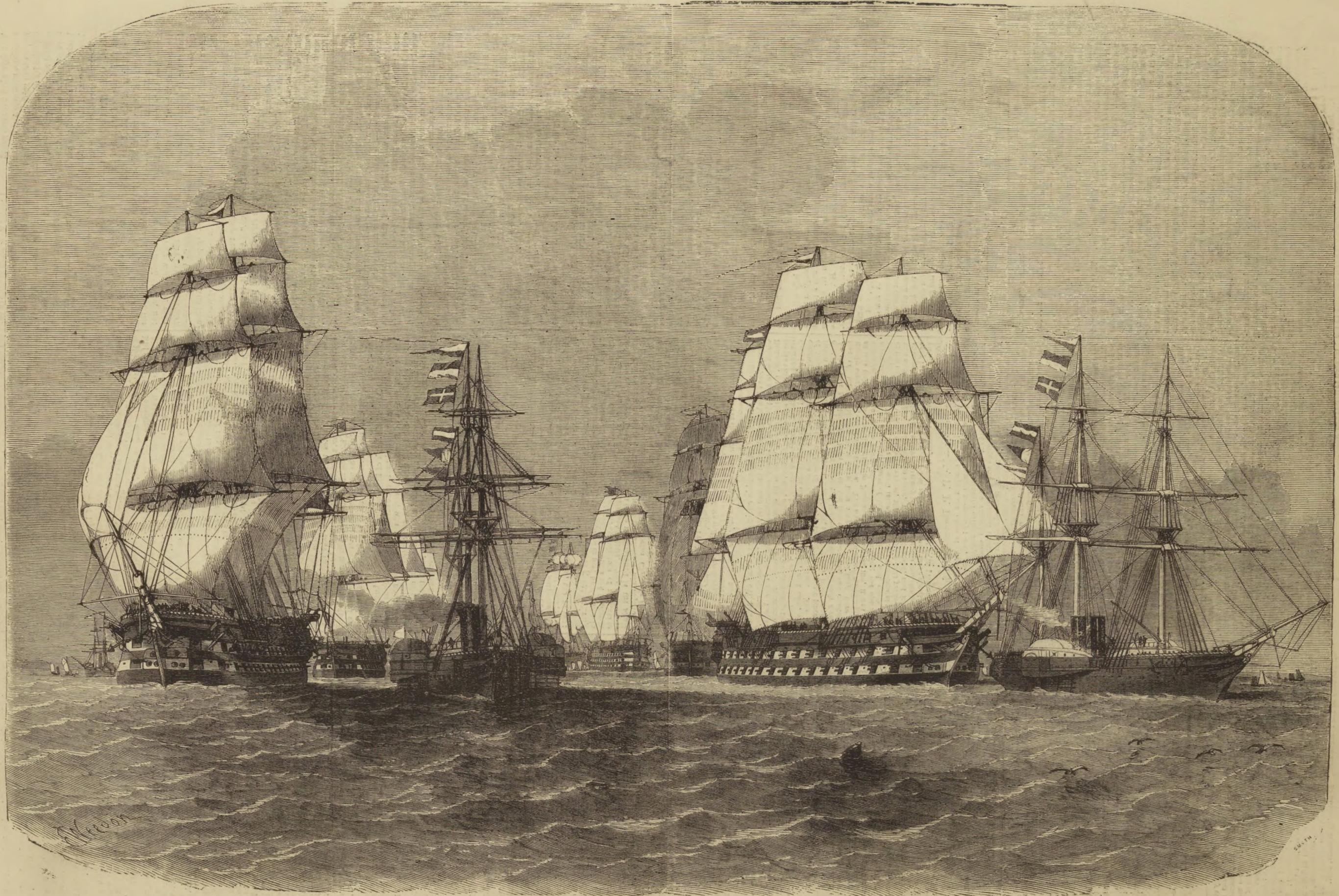
In the year 1849 appeared Miss Brontë's second novel, "Shirley." The story is laid in the dales of Yorkshire, the features of which are presented with the minute knowledge of a close observer. The incidents of the tale are associated with a picture of life in the outlying manufacturing districts at the close of the last war, when want and misery on the part of the governed and lack of knowledge and sympathy on the part of the rulers threatened to put out the light that science was bringing to bear on the arts of life; when labour and machinery were declared to be sworn antagonists, by the strong-handed multitude. Many stirring events of the war of classes cross the history of two young girls, the Allegro and Pencroft, of the tale—one, a brilliant heiress, frank and fascinating, whose nature has expanded beneath the sunshine of prosperity, wins hearts at pleasure, but pines for the one which is long in coming; the other, silent and imaginative, nurtured under the shadow of an unob-servant and preoccupied father, reveals her sweet-spiritedness, like the perfume of a flower, to all but himself. The sober dilations of grave men are amusingly represented, and the strong feeling for earnest overmastering truth painted as by one who had proved and rated it at its true worth.

Miss Brontë's third and last novel, "Villette," appeared in 1853; and, unlike her preceding works, was marked by no stirring incidents—no romantic details. It is simply the history of life in a foreign school; but that little world is made to contain the elements of a sphere extensive as humanity itself. Although not calculated, from its deficiency of story, to be as universally popular as "Jane Eyre," it met with high appreciation, as a remarkable result of that high order of genius which imparts its own powerful fascination to the detail of events of the simplest character. Currier Bell may almost be said to have founded a school of fiction in which the "flower is shown in the bud," and the child literally made "father to the man;" in which some young spirit, starved of sympathy, turns inward and revenges the injuries of the few, in scorn and distrust of the many; isolated and self-concentrated, till the well-spring of love, frozen, but not dried up, bursts its bonds under the influence of the first warm sunshine of affection, and expends itself with the reckless prodigality of a miser suddenly turned spendthrift.

**COPYRIGHT OF SERMONS.**—In a postscript to a Fast-day sermon just published by the Rev. Mr. Binney, that gentleman complains of the unauthorized publication of his lectures and sermons. These are pirated, collected, and made into a book, and he has had the mortification of seeing a new volume announced by him, with a title he never authorised nor heard of, in a way he could not control, and with a view to profits in which he had no



THE BALTIC FLEET AT ANCHOR.



JAMES WATT.

HOGUE. EDINBURGH.

BASILISK. AJAX. CESAR. D. OF WELLINGTON. COLOSSUS.

BLENHEIM.

MAGICIENNE.

THE BALTIC FLEET LEAVING SPITHEAD.

## DIVIDEND DAY AT THE BANK OF ENGLAND.

THIR days when our great-grandmothers hoarded their small savings in old stockings, or interleaved the family Bible with bank-notes, or filled cracked teapots with golden guineas, have passed away long since; these ancient depositories of our small wealth—the stocking, the Bible, and the old cracked teapot—are quietly left to their more legitimate uses; and now-a-days we prefer in their stead the safer channels of investment—the savings-banks, or the shares of the various Leviathan railway companies, or the transfer-books of the Bank of England.

The small investors in the Government Funds are quite a class of themselves. Ordinarily timid to a fault, they can never bring themselves to put faith in any other mode of laying out their money. In their minds the stability of the Bank has something to do with the solidity of its masonry; and they would as soon expect each separate stone of the heavy pillars to tumble about their ears as entertain a hint of the insecurity of the interest on their stock, or of the safety of the stock itself. "No, no! we are all right here! Savings-banks may be all very well; but then look at the Toddletumbleton Savings-bank; didn't that go all to smash? and poor old Martha Mumps, didn't she—and old Griddle the shoemaker, didn't he—and didn't a host of others, all lose every penny? And then Railways! Why, you remember young Spoffington—to be sure he wasn't anything very bright—but didn't he buy those shares in the Great Moony-muffinap Grand Trunk Railway; and didn't they turn out worth nothing at all? No, no, it's all safe and sound here." And so it is; much sounder than the old cracked teapot, and more secure than the plethoric old stocking of yore.

Let us take a stroll to the Bank when the Dividends have become payable, and let us watch the various people who come in to receive their half-year's interest. Here they are, pouring in from east, west, north, and south—from perfumed Belgravia, as well as from redolent Whitechapel; from the trim suburbs, as well as from the more distant rural retreat. Hither they have come in every kind of conveyance, carriage, cab, fly, phaeton, omnibus, spring-cart, and pony chaise. Here is the well-appointed carriage with its high-conditioned horses, and its tall well-fed footman, whose "fatted calves" excite the admiration or the envy of repentant City prodigals. There, mark the two dowagers getting out of the hired glass coach in which they have come periodically almost on the same day any time these—there is no saying how many years. Observe, too, that decrepit old man, who is lifted out of the cab: nothing on earth would induce him to grant a power of attorney to his banker, or broker, or anybody, to receive his ample dividends for him; the cost of a "power" would ruin him, besides he would be cheated, robbed, brought to beggary. No, as long as he can crawl he will come to take his own money, though it should kill him to get there.

Let us go inside. See! what is the matter with the dumpy little woman, who is performing quite a pantomime with her head and hands, and a kind of *pas d'indignation* with her feet? Oh! she has asked for the dividend on an amount of stock, and the clerk has told her he has no such sum in her name. She is horrified; and is explaining to the clerk how she gave the money to her broker come Wednesday was just four months and a week; she "minds it exactly; for, says Mr. Scrip, the broker, says he, "Shall we say, spinster, ma'am?" which as this lady by the side of me—who is one of the most respectablest of ladies, and has lived in the best of familiés—knows as I"—. But the clerk has no time to listen to what she said to Mr. Scrip, and she trudges off quite "fast and furious" to give the unfortunate Mr. Scrip "a bit of her mind;" only to come back, however, all smiles and smirks, to beg "a thousand pardings" of the clerk for having asked for the dividend on a wrong amount of stock.

Observe that pale, harassed-looking woman, who is looking round her continually, as though she feared some one might be watching her. She is married; and her husband, who is a drunkard, ill-treats her. She works hard, and, unlike many women, earns very good wages at her employment, whatever that is. If her husband knew how much she gained, the worthless fellow would thenceforth lead an idle life, depending on his wife's exertions for his subsistence. The poor wife, therefore, is put to all shifts to conceal her gains—not so much on her own account as for her boy, a fine little fellow, whom she is training up in all good ways. She has managed, from time to time, to save a tolerable sum, as a nest egg, in case of need, but she has invested it in her *maiden name*, adding to it as opportunity offered. Her visits to her broker, or to the Bank, therefore, are made in fear and trembling, lest her husband should have suspected and followed her, and become possessed of her secret, which would only be a preliminary step to his seizing upon her little hoard, and getting drunk till the proceeds of its sale became exhausted. This fear has always prevented her taking even her dearest friend into her confidence, and she has carefully hid away, or destroyed, every memorandum of her little investments. Perhaps she may die before her husband, and her secret may die with her; if so, her maiden name will go to swell the list of Unclaimed Dividends, and, ten to one, the stock may never be claimed.

This is not a solitary case of the kind; or of investments made clandestinely for some special purpose, although some have not had the excuse of being such "pious frauds" as the above.

One day, some years ago, a fashionably-dressed young lady called at the office of a broker, bringing with her a letter of introduction from a gentleman holding a high Government appointment, who was a personal friend of the broker. The letter merely stated that Miss G. wished to make a small investment in the Funds, and requested Mr. B.'s (the broker's) best attention on her behalf. The young lady instructed Mr. B. to purchase about twenty pounds' Stock, and to add it to the amount (some two thousand pounds) already standing in her name, as Miss Emily G., of Blank-street, Blank-square; which was done accordingly, and she went away, calling the same afternoon for the stock receipt. A few days afterwards she came again to the broker, said that she had determined on laying her money out on mortgage; and now wished to sell out the whole. Mr. B., therefore, effected the sale, and she went over to the Bank with him to make the requisite transfer of the stock. She signed the book, the broker handed her the money in notes and gold, and she was departing; when, just at the moment of her leaving the broker's office, the gentleman who had given her the letter of introduction entered, and on seeing her said, "Ah! Mary, how are you? How are all at home?" It was remarked by Mr. B. that she trembled violently, and seemed very much confused at the appearance of her friend; which circumstance, and the name by which she had been addressed, created some suspicion in the broker's mind, who immediately on her leaving said to the gentleman—

"Did you not call the young lady Mary?"

"Of course I did. What else should I call her?"

"But her name is Emily!"

"Eh, what?" said the other, looking fixedly at the broker; "you don't mean to say she has signed the Bank-books as Emily?"

"I do! I have just sold two thousand pounds stock for her, and she made the transfer as Emily G., of —."

"The deuce she has! Emily G. is her sister. Mary has forged her signature, and has thus robbed her sister of almost all she possessed. Come with me instantly; for we must get hold of this misguided girl without a moment's delay."

They reached her home: she had not been there. They then sought her at the houses of her relatives and friends or acquaintances, but she was not to be found. They imagined she might be hiding away in some lodging, and, day by day, caused advertisements to be inserted in the newspapers, carefully worded, beseeching her to return, and all should be forgotten. This course was unsuccessful, and they then advertised for her in her actual name, offering rewards for any information respecting her. They never, however, saw her again; and, strange to say, not the slightest clue has ever been obtained of her from that hour to the present time: nor is it known whether she be alive or dead, although five-and-thirty years have passed since her singular disappearance. Her sister, out of consideration for her, never claimed the stock, or declared the forgery, but put up with the loss. For the same reason, the notes which Mary had received from Mr. B., the broker, were not stopped; but inquiries have, on several occasions, been made at the Bank, to ascertain whether any of them had been paid in. Not one has ever passed through the Bank, and the whole affair remains a mystery.

The annals of such an establishment are, of course, not wanting in examples of every shade and degree of fraud, against which the ingenuity of the Bank requires to be perpetually on guard. In some few instances brokers themselves have figured as the forgers or actuators of the fraud: and two or three, in former times, under the old Draconic laws, paid the penalty of their misdeeds at the scaffold. In 1793 a rather effeminate-looking young man called on a broker, and requested him to sell a large amount of scrip (about £15,000); but was told by the broker that before he could act for him, some introduction, as is customary, was necessary. Just at that moment a Mr. Lyons was passing through the Alley (for there was then no Stock-Exchange), and all bargains in the

Funds were transacted in Change-alley). The young man, on seeing him pointed him out to Mr. Martin (the broker to whom he was applying to sell the scrip), saying that Mr. Lyons knew him well. Martin accordingly went to Lyons, who spoke very highly indeed of the young man, as possessing considerable property; but expressed himself chagrined that he should apply to Martin, as he (Lyons) had always hitherto acted as the young man's broker. Martin was satisfied; the new client left the scrip with him, and Martin sold part of it the same day. The next day was a holiday, and Martin, having little to do, was looking over and arranging his papers and securities, when something peculiar about the scrip caught his eye. He immediately went over to the Bank, and discovered that the whole was a forgery.

The effeminate young man was the sister of Lyons, who was the forger of the documents, and who had, of course, laid the plan of proceeding just as it had been carried out, though, fortunately, with a less successful issue than he had anticipated. He was apprehended, tried, pleaded guilty, and suffered the penalty of his crime. The sister, however, escaped.

Before that time, as early as 1762, another stockbroker, one John Rice, had suffered the extreme penalty of the law; and, subsequently, in 1811, Mr. Benjamin Walsh, a member of Parliament, and also a member of the Stock-Exchange, stood at the bar of the Old Bailey, on a charge of having defrauded his client, Sir Thomas Plomer, of a sum of £16,000. He was found guilty, but certain points reserved for the opinion of the judges, were given in his favour, and he was discharged; he was, however, expelled the House of Commons.

A singular trick is said to have been practised not very long since; but for the authenticity of the circumstances we are unable to vouch. The anecdote, however, is a curious one, whether true or not.

One day, a lady, who had just received the amount of her dividends (between two and three hundred pounds), in bank-notes, had just left the Rotunda, and was getting into her carriage in Bartholomew-lane, when a person, without a hat, and with a pen behind his ear, apparently a clerk from the Bank, rushed down the steps of the entrance on that side, and hurriedly apologising to the lady, stated, almost out of breath, that the numbers of the notes, which she had just received, had been omitted to be taken; that the omission, he feared, would cost him his situation, unless the lady would kindly allow him immediately to remedy the error. Would she come back with him? Or, he would spare her all trouble, if she would entrust the notes to him: he would take them back to the Rotunda, copy the numbers, and return with them in two minutes. The lady unsuspectingly gave him the notes, and waited in her carriage—it is impossible to say how long. The pretended clerk never returned, and on the lady going back to the Rotunda to make inquiry, the trick was, of course, discovered.

It was in 1717 that the Bank of England first undertook the business of keeping the transfer books and paying the dividends of the National Debt. The present system of transfer, however, was not adopted until 1783. In the early stages of the Debt, when a loan was contracted, tallies were given to the several contractors; and when a sale was made of any portion, the name of the buyer was endorsed on the tally, and the endorsement afterwards registered in the books kept by the Government.

The sum received by the Bank for conducting the transfer business and paying the Dividends was, previously to 1786, £562 10s. for every million of the Debt; in that year the allowance was reduced to £450 per million; in 1808 it was still further limited to £340 per million on six hundred millions, and £300 per million on all that exceeded that sum. On the renewal of the Bank Charter in 1823, this last allowance was reduced by £120,000 per annum; and the amount now received by the Bank for transacting the Government business is, we believe, £90,205 per annum.

**PARIS EXHIBITION.**—The precise number of exhibitors for the Paris Exhibition is not at present known; but it is calculated that it will be between 17,000 and 18,000—rather more than in London. Of them, not fewer than from 7000 to 8000 are French; from England there will be from 3000 to 3600; from the Zollverein, upwards of 2000; from Austria, 1800; Belgium, 600 to 700; Switzerland, 400 to 500; and Spain, 300 to 400.

**AMERICAN MUSKETS FOR FOREIGN USE.**—There is great activity at present among American gun-manufacturers, induced in part by the war in Europe. The *Windsor* (Vermont) *Journal* says that the Robbins and Lawrence Company, of Windsor, have just contracted for the manufacture of muskets to the amount of some four or five hundred thousand dollars. The contract is made for a company in London, and the arm to be manufactured is the Minie rifle, with some modifications. The fulfilment of the contract will require an additional force of two or three hundred men. The *Boston Chronicle* has the following:—"Aside from the extensive contract from the English Government for gun-machinery, now nearly completed, at the Massachusetts Arms Company's Works at Chicopee Falls, we learn that another of our enterprising gun-manufacturers has lately received a contract from the same source for about 20,000 rifled muskets. The muskets are to be rifled with three grooves, and to carry a hollow conical ball, which makes them, in fact, a modification of the French Minie gun. A similar musket, or perhaps the old pattern altered, will be introduced into our service. Let the war affect other interests as it may, our New England gunmakers will reap considerable advantage from it, as the English Government has not the facilities at their command for the manufacture of the new arms as fast as they are wanted, and therefore they seek our assistance."

**MORTAR PRACTICE.**—Considerable curiosity has been evinced in consequence of its being understood that two very large "sea-service mortars," which have been placed in a battery constructed on the left of the Victoria Redoubt, on the right attack, were to be opened on the town. Numbers of people visited the spot during the day, and, after waiting for a considerable time, returned disappointed. Just before sunset, however, when I should say not less than two hundred French and English officers, of all ranks, and men, were congregated at the spot, two shells were thrown with great effect. The first of them went quite into the middle of the town, falling in a square place between some houses, and the explosion was terrific, sending up a huge mass of dust and dirt; they probably thought one of their own mines had been sprung. As this spot has hitherto been out of the range of our guns, the consternation of the inhabitants must have been very great, and they were distinctly seen rushing out of their houses. The second shot struck a building, and as it is quite the regular thing for the Russians to return our fire, it was very interesting to see the whole group, which had been watching the operations, scampering off in all directions, most of them laughing, and some almost screaming with delight at the successful issue of the first experimental practice of the new guns, which, on this occasion, threw the shells 4200 yards—nearly two and a half miles. The fire, however, was not returned, and it appears strange that the Russians allowed so many persons to remain unmolested within easy range of their shot and shell; but at present one can move about with impunity in places where formerly it would have been far from pleasant.—*Letter from the Camp.*

**KILMARNOCK BURGHES.**—Mr. E. P. Bouverie, who has long represented these burghs, having accepted the office of Vice-President of the Board of Trade, a new election became necessary; and, accordingly, it took place on Saturday last, when he was returned without opposition. Mr. Bouverie, in his address to the electors, made some remarks on the war. He believed that peace with foreign countries was the essential condition of our prosperity and welfare. But, at the same time, he believed that the war in which we were at this moment engaged was justifiable, on the only grounds on which it could be justified—namely, that it was just and necessary. He believed that what was inferred in the term "balance of power" was a combination of the different States in Europe for the protection and security of the various members. It was just the same in reference to the nations of the world as it was in respect to the civil government of a community. What was the reason, for instance, that any person could walk the streets in the most perfect security, and feel that life and property were not liable to be assailed? It was because all had combined to protect themselves from the aggression of those who might be desirous to attack them. It was the same with States. Unless France and England, and those other kingdoms which occupy a leading position, were to consider if their duty to combine for the defence of their weaker brethren from those who assail them in the lust of empire, we should soon see the whole of Europe in confusion, and our very existence as a State endangered by the use of the enormous power of another State. He would say, then, that the war was necessary, because it was unavoidable by any reasonable or fair means; and if we had attempted to avoid it now, we should assuredly have met it hereafter under far more dangerous circumstances.

**THE IRISH EXODUS.**—All warning to the contrary notwithstanding, the "rush from Ireland" has already reset in at the southern ports, and crowds of the peasantry are daily leaving their native shore for the far west beyond the Atlantic. The steamers from Waterford leave each week, carrying with them their full complement of emigrants. On Friday, one vessel left the Solent for Liverpool with 150 passengers, and all bound for America, with the exception of two families, who are going to Australia. The Roman Catholic clergy at home and in the United States have been for some time past exerting their most potent influence to induce the Irish peasantry to give "fatherland" another trial, as there is no longer a prospect of bettering their condition in the model republic until at least some check is given to the formidable organisation of the "Know-Nothings." The reverend advisers, however, see no objection to their flocks going to the Canadas, which, strange to say, are now regarded as the land of promise, where all creeds and classes can enjoy perfect liberty, although under "British rule." From the province of Connacht, too, the cry is still "They go," and even the thundering voice of John of Tuam is powerless to stay the flight of his erratic subjects. In consequence of the decrease in the number of hands wages have risen in many places to 1s. 6d. a day, which is double what they were a year or two ago.

The *Schomberg*, a ship of 2400 tons register, was launched at Aberdeen on Thursday week. This ship—which is the largest sailing-vessel ever built in England for the merchant service—is to be employed in the trade between Liverpool and Australia.

## TO CORRESPONDENTS.

ANTI-FLORIN should apply to a publisher of American books—as Mr. Chapman, King William-street, Strand.

A Correspondent, Camden-town, is recommended to send his Numbers of the *ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS* to be bound by Messrs. Leighton, Son, and Hodge, Shoe-lane, Fleet-street.

CATHERINE GREENWAY, Warwick, will find in Mr. Tooke's elaborate work, "The History of Prices," the average price of wheat per quarter from 1760 to 1847. Since 1847 she will find it in the *Statistical Abstract*, annually published by the Government.

G. W., a Subscriber.—One of the largest trees in Greenwich-park is a chestnut-tree, the bole of which measures 18*1/2* feet in circumference; it is near the Wilderness pond.

B. B., Brooks's Club.—The new district church of St. Mark, Albert-road, Regent's-park, is in style, Gothic of the thirteenth century, with a tower and spire, with very fine east and west windows, the former resembling the west window of Tintern Abbey. Architect, Thomas Little; amount of contract, £8766. No. 619 of the *ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS* contains a view of the Church, with description.

LINT.—We have received a communication from a lint manufacturer, in reply to the article in our Journal of March the 17th. The writer states that the making of lint is far from wearisome or unhealthy; and that he is not aware of any employment in which females at the age of from sixty to seventy years, can earn fifteen shillings per week, except in the making of lint.

B. C.—A broker is an agent of traders, and cannot be called professional. Brokers often trade themselves. In the city of London brokers are licensed, and the license cannot be sold. A broker's business connection may be worth something; and, under certain circumstances, at his death, may have a money value, and may be sold.

E., Tuxford.—We have seen and heard several explanations of the use of "M or N" in the first answers given to the Church Catechism, and the Liturgy. The most reasonable explanation, to our thinking, is given in No. 29 of *Notes and Queries*, by Arun, who does not consider "'M or N' to have been used as the initials of any particular words; they are the middle letters of the alphabet, and at the time the Prayer-book was compiled, it seems to have been the fashion to employ them in the way in which we now use the first two." Hereafter, it may be inquired of what words the letters "A B," which our legislators use in their Acts of Parliament, are the initials.

N. A. N.—The Stock you refer to is called the New Three per Cent. The Act of 1844, by which the Three-and-a-Quarter per Cent Stock was created, provided that in October, 1854, the interest should be further reduced to 3 per cent, which accordingly took place, and it is now the New Three per Cent Stock.

B. B.—At the Admiralty.

F. S., Richmond.—The hackneyed quotation, "the recording angel, as he wrote it down, dropped a tear upon the word, and blotted it out for ever," is from Sterne's "Tristram Shandy," chap. clix.—"Story of Le Fevre."

S. is thanked; but we have not room for his design.

An OLD SUBSCRIBER.—The Cinque Ports, in Kent and Sussex, originally consisted of Dover, Sandwich, Romney, Hythe, and Hastings; to which were subsequently added Winchelsea, Sealord, and Rye.

A LEADS SUBSCRIBER.—We cannot inform you as to the projected Lottery in Paris during the approaching Exhibition.

ADA.—There is an Industrial Home for Gentlewomen at Nos. 25 and 26, Queen-square, Bloomsbury.

A CORRESPONDENT, Manchester.—Patent Artificial Ice was introduced into the metropolis, as an exhibition, in 1842-3.

J. B., we consider, will not be liable to the fine.

E.G.—Address to the Editor of *Notes and Queries*, 186, Fleet-street.

W. E. R. and G. P. F. are thanked: we have not room for the Lines.

X. Y. Z., Haverfordwest.—The acreage of Yorkshire is 3,735,000; of Wales, North and South, 4,752,000.

E. W.—The list of Unclaimed Dividends may be seen at Deacon's Coffee-house, Wallbrook, City.

CASS, Brighton.—Apply to Weale, Holborn, for the work on "Land Surveying."

Z. Z. Z.—The Zetland or Shetland Islands, in the North Atlantic Ocean, belong to Scotland.

DOMINIE.—The information you have received is correct;

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THE TURKISH CAVALRY CAMP AT EUPATORIA.

## THE TURKISH CAVALRY CAMP AT EUPATORIA.

We have to thank a Correspondent at Eupatoria for the accompanying Sketch of the location of the Cavalry Camp, the extreme left of the Turkish position.—“The long building on the left,” says our Correspondent, “is a Russian barrack, deserted, unroofed, and the masonry partially pulled down to assist in forming the adjoining batteries. Next is shown the extreme of the breastwork, which extends round the whole town. The pickets are seen on the hills; and, to the right, the town of Eupatoria. This position is covered from the advance of the enemy by the guns of her Majesty’s ships *Lynx* and *Valorous*, which vessels are within easy range of the plain, over which such advance must be made, as we proved yesterday, March 16, by a shot from our Lancaster gun, which put a body of Russians (who had made their appearance, and, no doubt, deemed themselves out of range) to the rightabout, thus showing that the much-abused gun-boats are of some service in the Black Sea. The *Lynx* exhibits signs of the Russians former attentions to her, in her fished foremast, which was badly wounded by a 32lb. shot in the action of the 17th October, 1854, at Sebastopol.”

## ATTACK ON SOUJAK.

Of this spirited affair the official account has already appeared. We are now enabled, by an obliging Correspondent, to illustrate the scene, accompanied by further details:—

H.M.S. —, Soujak Bay, Tuesday evening, March 13, 1855.

I send you a short account of the most stirring day’s work we have witnessed and shared in since we arrived in the Black Sea. On the *Highflyer*’s joining, to relieve *Leopard*, the Captain of the latter (Giffard), who had pre-

viously examined the fortifications of this place, thought that an attack on it, in concert with the Circassians, might have very beneficial effects, and seriously annoy the enemy. We left Kertch on Sunday evening, the squadron consisting of *Leopard*, *Highflyer*, *Swallow*, *Viper*, (gun-boat), and a French steamer, the *Fulton*, mounting three guns. We arrived here yesterday morning, but with bad weather brewing, and unable to attack the forts at once. We anchored in the bay; and the *Leopard*, with her heavy guns, began shelling the place, which had no guns to reach us. An advanced post and stockade which the Russians had at the head of the bay, opposite the town, was evacuated by them, under protection of a detachment, with a field-piece, sent from the town, to cover their retreat from the Circassians, who appeared in numbers in all directions, from behind every stone. We saw them skirmishing with the Russians as the latter first advanced and then retreated into the town, but too far off for us to hit them, particularly as it was blowing very fresh. The Circassians very soon took possession of this advanced post and stockade, and set fire to it, after demolishing the few buildings it contained; and it was a fine sight during the night, which was very dark. This morning about eight, there being little wind, we weighed by signal, and went in at the batteries. We attacked the weak point of the Russians, where they could bring only ten or eleven guns to bear on us, mounted on low “earth works,” made apparently of sand—the most formidable kind of thing for ships to attack. We anchored at, I imagine, something less than 1000 yards off; but it was difficult to judge, as the smoke from the first gun hung over us, and during the whole of the action we could very seldom see the enemy’s guns. But they fired well, and with great rapidity; we suffered much in hulls and rigging, though apparently their heaviest guns were 24-pounders—many were only 12-pounders. It is a marvel to me that our loss in men was so small: *Leopard* had one man killed; his head knocked off by a shot; the *Highflyer* had two very slightly wounded; *Swallow*, luckily, had none hurt, though she was hulled in six places—one between wind and water, but no ball penetrated through her side—and two since picked out proved 12-pounders; her foremast was shot through, maintopmast rendered useless; and one or two ropes were carried away. *Leopard* and *Highflyer* were struck in many places—the latter principally aloft—maintopmast, maintopsailyard, mainyard, foremast, boats,

lower rigging, and almost every rope in the ship shot away. We were about one hour under fire, and the damage done in so short a time was marvelous. The Frenchman was struck only once, in the hull, as he was very well placed out of the chief line of fire. The gun-boat kept at a distance, and was struck only once; but that smashed her chronometer. We came out by signal; but *Swallow* could not get away quite so quickly as her consorts, and we expected to see all the fire centered on her. The *Viper* gallantly kept in to cover her, as in going out she could bring no gun to bear. But only two shots were fired at her, and it is clear that the enemy were silenced. Had there been a little more wind to clear the smoke away, and allow our fellows to point their guns better, we should have done our work in half the time. But the Circassians failed us, and made no attack, allowing themselves to be kept in check by some small guns that the Russians kept firing at them. Their forte is guerrilla warfare. We anchored beyond range on coming out; the Captains went out in the *Viper* for a reconnaissance, and landed to meet the Circassians, who collected in great numbers. From a high position a good survey of the town was obtained. It was completely deserted. The inhabitants and the whole garrison (about 3000) were encamped outside the town, and out of reach of fire. It was ascertained that great damage was inflicted; and the best effect of our attack will be—besides the encouragement given to the Circassians in this first active step to aid them—the preventing the Russians from withdrawing the garrisons of Soujak or Anapa to reinforce their Crimean army, as they have been doing lately.

A subsequent letter says:—

We have learnt that, the night after, the Circassians did attack the Russians, and took an officer and some men prisoners; also that we had done them (the Russians) much damage, and that they lost many killed and wounded in the action. Moreover, we have reason to believe that they are preparing to evacuate the place—retreating to Anapa, their last stronghold in Circassia. They seem to have left the forts and earthworks untouched after the action, which they never would have done had they any intention of remaining in the place.



ATTACK ON SOUJAK BY THE “LEOPARD,” “HIGHFLYER,” “SWALLOW,” “VIPER,” AND “FULTON.”